

June 2010

Yolo County Children's Alliance

While many people tend to think about hunger during the holiday season, the need for food and resources is actually year-round. In fact, for many low-income families, the summer months can be especially challenging, as they find themselves struggling to feed children who would ordinarily receive free or reduced price lunch at school. In light of this, we are dedicating our June Agency Spotlight to The Yolo County Children's Alliance, located in West Sacramento, CA.



Did you know that a staggering 97% of the children in the Broderick neighborhood of West Sacramento qualify for free or reduced price school lunch? Since 2002, The Yolo County Children's Alliance has worked to fulfill its mission to assess, coordinate and act to strengthen and support the continuum of prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation services and resources for children, youth and their families.



The Children's Alliance is partially funded by First 5, and through programs like *The Children's Health Initiative*, *Step By Step/Paso a Paso*, and *Foster Parent Recruitment and Retention*, the Children's Alliance successfully accomplishes its objectives to provide vital family support services, address child and family-related community problems, and disseminate local information about the needs and the well-being of Yolo County families.

Strategic alliances with other nonprofit organizations are an additional source of critical support. Since November of 2009, the Food Bank of Yolo County has partnered with The Children's Alliance in its effort to provide fresh produce to needy West Sacramento residents. This joint effort has resulted in the distribution of produce to more than 120 families per week; and Food Bank Executive Director Jose Martinez expects the number of families being served to increase soon.

"Our partnership with The Children's Alliance is relatively new," Martinez noted, "and we're both encouraged and excited by the passion and commitment they've already demonstrated in serving the West Sacramento community."

Like any other agency, The Yolo County Children's Alliance can benefit from increased support from the community, at-large. For more information about how you can help, please contact The Yolo County Children's Alliance at (530) 757-5558. You can also visit them on the web at: www.yolokids.org.