

DHF Launches LYFE Bridges: Empowering Youth Through Higher Education and Career Programs



The Dolores Huerta Foundation Youth Program (LYFE - Liberated Youth for Empowerment) launched a higher education and career program for youth called LYFE Bridges. It aims to bridge young people's leadership experience in LYFE to their higher education and career planning.

In April, LYFE Bridges hosted its first college tour for 19 youths from across the Central Valley. They visited UC Santa Cruz, UC Berkeley, and San Jose State for two days.

Seventeen-year-old LYFE members Katherine C. said, "I loved getting to know the college campuses that I've never been to before, and I'm glad I got to see these schools as I plan to consider applying to some of them. Thank you so much for the opportunity! It's a great way to show students like me how college life is and what my future could look like. It's also a great opportunity for students who can't travel to colleges and see what these schools offer." Josselyne, another seventeen-year-old LYFE member, thanked DHF and shared, "I enjoyed the tours, and they helped me decide which university I will commit to. In the fall, I will be attending Berkeley. Everything was perfect!"

Through a partnership with the College Corps of Cal State Bakersfield, seven part-time mentors were brought on to assist students and families with questions about financial aid, scholarships, internships, employment, college applications, and career planning. DHF is excited to support the development of LYFE members' academic and professional careers and looks forward to sharing their journeys.



Dolores Huerta Foundation Urges Support for SB 274 to End Willful Defiance Suspensions in California Schools



The Dolores Huerta Foundation calls for support of SB 274, a bill that would end willful defiance suspensions in California schools. The bill, which passed the Senate earlier this year, is currently being reviewed by the Assembly Education Committee. We believe that students belong in classrooms, not out of school. Willful defiance suspensions are a form of discrimination that disproportionately impacts students of color and students with disabilities. SB 274 would help to ensure that all students have the opportunity to receive a quality education.

SB 274 would extend a previous bill, SB 419, which prohibited K-8 suspension and expulsions for students for willful defiance until 2024. Willful defiance is a subjective and overly broad category of suspensions that can be used to punish students for minor misbehavior, such as dancing, dress code violations, or not paying attention in class.

This bill is a common-sense measure that would help to keep students in school and out of the criminal justice system. Urge the Assembly Education Committee to vote yes on SB 274.

To contact your representative in the Assembly Education Committee, visit the California State Assembly website.

Get Vaccinated Today!

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to threaten our communities, but we can fight back and keep everyone safe. The most effective way to do so is by getting vaccinated and boosted. Vaccines continue to be our most potent defense against this ever-changing virus. Extensive research and rigorous testing have confirmed their safety and efficacy, providing a powerful tool to combat COVID-19. By rolling up your sleeve, you create a healthier future for all.

It's essential to understand that COVID-19 vaccines and booster shots are safe for adults and children. Medical experts worldwide have carefully evaluated the vaccines, ensuring they meet the highest standards of quality and effectiveness. Protecting ourselves and the most vulnerable members of our society, including our little ones, is paramount.

Remember, getting vaccinated isn't just about safeguarding your health. It's a selfless act that helps protect our families, friends, and the broader community.

Get vaccinated or boosted against COVID-19 today! Juntos sí podemos! Si se puede! Go to www.vaccines.gov or www.vacunas.gov to get vaccinated.