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Alameda County
Supervisor Keith Carson, Fifth District

For Immediate Release

December 14, 2009

PRESS RELEASE

The Terminator Tour: Speaking out through Cyberspace

The Governor is asking the public to donate food and volunteer time to help feed the hungry while at the same time terminating funding for families, youth, seniors, and the disabled forcing them to turn to the Alameda County Community Food Bank for help.

On Thursday, December 10th the same day Governor Schwarzenegger visited the Alameda County Community Food Bank and on the anniversary of the declaration of International Human Rights Day communities spoke out, by way of the Terminator Tour, against the budget cuts to an array of State social programs.

The Terminator Tour website, www.TerminatorTourCA.org, made its official launch at the St. Mary's Center in West Oakland. Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson has been gathering video interviews and photos aimed at putting a human face on the state budget cuts in an effort to remind the Governor and State Legislature of the people they have forgotten about.

"Governor Schwarzenegger, like his movie character, has been destroying our communities with his decisions to decimate our community programs that are set up to protect all residents," said Supervisor Carson, "and it's not just the Governor, our State Legislature have forgotten where they come from and the people they are suppose to represent."

Elliott Allen, a member of the Foster Youth Advisory Board of Alameda County, was one of the people who shared their story during the launch event. "After emancipation (from foster care) I was homeless, I had no job and had no money," Allen said. With nowhere to turn Allen found himself in jail. After a year in jail he received support from a social worker who helped him apply for the Transitional Housing Program Plus (THP Plus), a State funded program. Without transitional housing "I would not be where I am today."

Allen understands the benefits from social programs and "now that EYS (Emancipated Youth Stipend) has been cut entirely by the state and THP Plus is being cut by \$1 million, how will youth in similar or worse situations find a place of shelter, learn independence, and know where they can go for a support net?"

Residents and organizations all across California are encouraged to contribute to the Terminator Tour by making their own videos and photos to share their stories and struggles. Go to www.TerminatorTourCA.org for more information.



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