

For Immediate Release October 28, 2008 Contact: Kristi Amaral 209-652-2311

2008 Stanislaus County 7th Annual Community Retreat

Modesto, CA - On Saturday, November 1, 2008, Stanislaus County will host its seventh annual retreat for the general public, community leaders and groups – members of councils, commissions, boards and committees that represent the public.

The half-day event will provide participants:

- Exhibits and displays providing information on available community resources.
- General session workshops including "County Islands Improvement Strategies," "Brown Act Basics," and "Gang Awareness."
- Networking opportunities with local government and community leaders.

The retreat will be held at the Stanislaus County Agricultural Center, located at 3800 Cornucopia Way. The day begins at 8:00 a.m. with the opening of the interactive Exhibits Hall to the public. At 9:15 a.m., the Sheriff's Department will provide a Canine Unit demonstration. The General Session Workshops for community leaders will be from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. The VIP Networking Luncheon will begin shortly after at 12:15 p.m.

County Departments and partner agencies will provide demonstrations, exhibits, and displays in an interactive environment to allow participants an opportunity to learn more about areas of interest in the community. The networking luncheon that begins shortly after noon will feature Stanislaus County Office of Education Superintendent Tom Changnon and Modesto City Schools Superintendent Arturo Flores as keynote speakers for a discussion on the "State of Education in Stanislaus County" and some of their efforts in the community.

The retreat is hosted by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors. For more information please contact Kristi Amaral, Associate Manager, at 209-525-6333, or <u>amaralk@co.stanislaus.ca.us</u>