

LIFETIME's Parent Leadership Summit

January 5th & 6th, 2010

Sacramento, CA

LIFETIME has already begun work to prepare for the 2010 state budget debates, starting with our year-end Parent Leadership Meeting that we held Friday, December 18th. We are very worried about what the Governor's state budget proposal will mean for low-income families in California, and have heard from our friends in the state legislature that Schwarzenegger will probably propose the entire elimination of the CalWORKs program, like he did last summer. With welfare rolls and poverty rates rising for the first time in 14 years, the Governor's budget proposal will destroy our state safety net, at a time when California families need it the most.

But with the support of our friends, supporters and allies across the state, LIFETIME will continue its vital work in 2010 to bring the voice of low-income parents and children to the state budget process, and stop Governor Schwarzenegger from ending benefits to more than 1.2 million poor children and their families across our state. This year, even Assembly Speaker Karen Bass recognized that "enabling poor families to be part of the state budget process is one of the most important things that advocates and county welfare administrators can do."

How can you help? If you're a low-income parent or youth, you can support this work by attending LIFETIME's Statewide Parent Leadership meeting in Sacramento on January 5th and our Budget Press Conference on Wednesday, January 6th - the day that the Governor will hold his "State of State" address. Join LIFETIME parent and youth leaders in speaking out about how the Governor's proposed budget cuts will affect your children and family. To attend this year's summit, please call Vivian Hain at the LIFETIME Bay Area office to RSVP at 888-404-7726.

For parents and children who can't attend the summit, you can still participate by donating one of your dolls or stuffed animals which LIFETIME parent leaders and their children will deliver to the Governor in Sacramento on January 6th, with a written message from your family, the day he delivers his "State of the State" address.

And you don't have to be a low-income parent to be involved. Make a donation today, and support this important work by sponsoring a parent or family to travel to Sacramento to attend our Parent Leadership Meeting! Due to funding cuts and the economy, LIFETIME is depending on the support of people like you who care about fairness and accountability in our state budget process, to bring low-income parents and children to Sacramento to participate in our Statewide Parent Leadership Meeting and Budget Press Conference on January 5th-6th, and make sure that their voices are heard.

Please support our work to save our state's safety net - every dollar counts, so no donation is too little - and likewise, no donation is too big!

- \$5 will provide a bag lunch for a parent or youth leader on the day of our press conference;
- \$10 will provide supplies and materials for our Parent Leadership Meeting;
- \$25 will provide dinner for a parent and her two children the night of our meeting;
- \$50 will cover roundtrip train fare for a parent leader to travel to Sacramento from the Bay Area;
- \$100 will provide lodging for one family on January 5th;
- \$150 will provide airfare for one parent leader to travel from Los Angeles;
- A donation of \$400 will sponsor the entire costs of attendance for one parent and two children to participate in this important event!

Make a donation today, so LIFETIME parent and youth leaders can participate in the state budget process, and win state budget priorities that value low-income families and communities in 2010.

In the meanwhile, on behalf of the staff and families at LIFETIME, we wish you all the best for the holidays and New Year!

Yours in justice,

Diana Spatz
Executive Director

LIFETIME: Low-Income Families'
Empowerment Through Education
www.geds-to-phds.org



Donate now to support LIFETIME's mission to empower low-income parents to determine, pursue and achieve their goals for education, employment and economic security.