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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## **Backhoe Certification for 20 Tulare County Youth Corps Members**

Visalia, Calif. October 1, 2007 – Twenty-one Tulare County Youth corps member showed up last week to take their tests. They all wanted to get their backhoe certification, showing that they're ready to do the job for businesses in Tulare County. Twenty-one took the test and 20 earned their certification.

The training and certification are offered by the local Corps, a project of CSET, and the Tulare County Construction Trades program. The Tulare County Redevelopment Agency provides the workplace (at Sequoia Airfield) and the equipment. Youth learn a variety of in-demand skills while refurbishing the Airfield for use by various business enterprises that will create jobs for Tulare County. Thus far, the Corps members have installed 10,000 feet of fencing and 5,000 feet of fiber optic cables at Sequoia Field. Their next assignment will be to build a poly building to house the trades program and store equipment. Corps member can also earn a certification to use the Bobcat, forklift, scissor lift and spiral boom lift.

Dave Carpenter, the Corps project manager, says the program is a “trifecta win, teaching skills to youth, producing skilled workers for the local workforce and advancing a visionary County project that will create jobs.”

Congratulations to: Steve Valadez, Richard Mendoza, Zacharia Viscarra, Antonio Alonzo, Salvador Gonzalez, Raul Marquez, Michael Romero, Susan Machado, Tith See, Angel Chacon, Mitchell Giles, John Kloman, Alberto Carlos, Miguel Gonzalez, Dustin Ellis, Thomas Chavez, Veder Herrera, Luis Cruz, Alex Galvan and Jeremy Enriquez.

For information on how to hire a youth please call Angela Ruiz-Alvarez at 741-4671.

### About TCYC

The mission of the Tulare County Youth Corps is to provide young men and women with education, job training, leadership development, and environmental awareness through the performance of community and conservation work projects.

### About CSET

CSET, a nonprofit Community Action Agency, seeks to strengthen youth, families and communities through education, employment training, youth development, mentoring, leadership building, job creation, housing, environmental stewardship and other strategies that support self-reliant families and caring communities.

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