Where **COMMUNITY** happens.

GET | **INVOLVED**

If you would like to learn more about our programs or are interested in volunteering for a community project, call us at (559) 732-4194, email us at info@cset.org or visit us online at www.CSET.org.

LIKE US | **TWEET** US

Stay informed with community updates, job openings, events and more by following us on social media. Find us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.
Keyword: CSET

LOCATIONS

Visalia Main Office | 312 NW 3rd Ave. | Tel. (559) 732-4194

Visalia Employment Connection
4025 W. Noble Ave., Suite B
Tel. (559) 713-5000

Porterville Employment Connection
1063 W. Henderson Ave.
Tel. (559) 788-1400

Cutler/Orosi CSET Office
12691 Ave. 408
Tel. (559) 528-1095

Tulare Family Resource Center
304 E. Tulare Ave.
Tel. (559) 684-1987

Earlimart Family Resource Center
114 N. Front St.
Tel. (661) 849-2960

East Porterville Drought Resource Center
185 S. Legget St.
Tel: 1 (866) 284-5142

North County Drought Resource Center
40808 Road 128, Cutler
Tel: (559) 563-3086

Pixley CSET Office
927 Center St.
Tel. (559) 575-0098

Cutler/Orosi Senior Center
Tel. (559) 528-6108

Earlimart Senior Center
Tel. (661) 849-2232

Exeter Senior Center
Tel. (559) 592-5960

Goshen Senior Center
Tel. 1(800) 321-2462

Lindsay Senior Center
Tel. (559) 562-5859

Porterville Senior Center
Tel. (559) 782-4725

Woodlake Senior Center
Tel. (559) 564-3251

Community Services Employment Training

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2014-2015

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S **MESSAGE**

CSET's commitment to serve the people of Tulare County remains strong as we continue to create and implement innovative and cost-effective programs that improve the living conditions and opportunities of low-income residents.

We are excited to share the focus of our strategies in 2015, which increased services to homeless families and individuals, expanded services to seniors, integrated best practices in our workforce development programs for youth and adults, and extended a youth leadership program to the community of Porterville.

CSET partnered with the Tulare County Office of Emergency Services to staff the Drought Resource Center in East Porterville. This welcomed source of assistance for residents affected by the devastating California drought became a lifeline for families living without running water. The participation of Health & Human Services, Self-Help Enterprises, United Way of Tulare County, and other local partners ensured comprehensive resources were available through the Center.

Our dedicated team of staff members worked with other partners and volunteers to empower youth, families and communities on their path to self-reliance. Through four departments, staff members facilitated services ranging from drought relief and no-cost income tax assistance, job training and business services, to parenting and recycling education. Through these efforts, CSET served nearly 20,000 Tulare County residents in 2015.

We are honored to share the breadth of our work in Tulare County and the region through this 2015 annual report. We invite you to explore the programs presented herein and hope they inspire you to join us on our mission to foster thriving youth, families and communities.

- Mary Alice Escarsega-Fechner
Executive Director

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Read to learn about the impact of CSET programs.

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CSET'S **MISSION**

CSET inspires youth, families and communities to achieve self-reliance through innovative pathways and collaboration.

CSET'S **VISION**

We share a vision for communities and residents to gain the knowledge, skills and resources needed to achieve the American Dream. To achieve this vision, we commit ourselves to these core values:

- **We strive to assist** residents regionally in improving their lives.
- **We create opportunities** for children, youth, parents and families to be competitive in an increasingly challenging economy.
- **We continue to strengthen** our organization by developing internal leadership, embracing diversity and maintaining integrity in every venture.
- **We seek partnerships** with other agencies to provide the best possible services to our community.

BOARD OF **DIRECTORS**

"CSET staff, partner agencies and volunteers skillfully collaborate to administer over 80 programs, each designed to meet the needs of individuals and families striving for self-sufficiency. As a board, we are privileged to be stewards of the CSET mission and steadfastly work to maintain the excellent efforts of this organization. CSET truly makes a positive impact in our communities."

Bob Barnier, Board President

PUBLIC SECTOR

Bob Barnier, *President*

Gene Etheridge

Marcia Becerra

Jill Maze

PRIVATE SECTOR

Tom Burns, *Vice-President*

Lori Luna, *Secretary*

David Brett

Ed Byrne

LOW-INCOME SECTOR

Ryan Toledo, *Treasurer*

Gailerd Swisegood

Malorie Barragan

Karol Aure-Flynn

FINANCIAL REVIEW

"Prudent financial planning is the key to a successful organization and CSET actively engages in this practice. As a result, the 2014-15 Fiscal Year demonstrated CSET's concentrated efforts to responsibly and efficiently administer programs that benefit our communities. CSET continually meets its goal of stretching each dollar without shortchanging services."

Melissa Lenihan, Chief Financial Officer

INCOME	Contracts & Grants	$17,905,716
	Other	$853,563
ASSETS	Cash	$494,286
	Receivables	$2,618,166
	Prepaid Expenses	$97,552
	Property & Equipment	$4,888,419
TOTAL	Income	$18,759,279
	Assets	$8,098,423
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	Current Liabilities	$2,601,434
	Noncurrent Liabilities	$1,657,134
	Unrestricted Net Assets	$2,256,871
	Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	$1,582,984
TOTAL	Liabilities	$4,258,568
	Net Assets	$3,839,855
	Liabilities and Net Assets	$8,098,423
FUNCTIONAL EXPENDITURES	Program Services	87%
	Management & General	13%

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

CSET's Community Initiatives Department manages a variety of family development and capacity building programs. These programs promote community visioning, equip community leaders and strengthen the residential, business and familial assets of local communities. Each of these programs is aimed at reducing the causes of poverty through strategies that unite residents, improve neighborhoods and empower youth to be leaders. Resources provided by the department include the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA), Senior Services, Family Resource Centers, Housing Support Services and the Bridge Loan Fund Program. The Community Initiatives Department is dedicated to the development of safe and prosperous Tulare County communities where youth, families and businesses thrive.

"Community Initiatives programs work to improve and fortify the existing social structures within Tulare County families and communities. Our staff members are devoted to providing residents with the support and resources they need to improve their lives, and in turn, improve the quality of their communities."

Raquel Gomez, Director of Community Initiatives

Community volunteers from Goshen Elementary School paint a mural in preparation for Make A Difference Day activities in the community of Goshen. The children created the mural as a way to showcase the community clean-up project on social media. The finished art piece was then hung in the school's cafeteria during the Make A Difference Day event.

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

Families served through Family Resource Center Programs **875**

Meals served to Tulare County Seniors **106,616**

Individuals who received rental or mortgage assistance **291**

Community volunteers **1,578**

Supportive Housing placements **35**

Tax returns completed through VITA **2,301**

Total amount in tax refunds to Tulare and Kings County residents **$2.6 million**

Students and Sequoia National Park rangers during a GREAT Camp trail activity.

Wells Fargo Bank presents a check for the Bridge Loan Fund Program.

Lunch is served at the new Porterville Senior Center location.

Residents visit the CSET booth at the Tulare County Housing Fair in Visalia.

Volunteer tax preparers attend a mandatory training prior to the start of the VITA program.

ENERGY SERVICES

Energy Services offers a range of programs that support families on their path to self-sufficiency as well as help them cope with drought conditions. The Energy Assistance program provides utility bill assistance, while the Weatherization program reduces heating and energy costs by installing energy efficiency measures in the home. Education is infused to both programs to help residents conserve energy and reduce utility costs. The Energy Services Department also administers the Drought Assistance Program and operates two Drought Resource Centers in the communities of East Porterville and Cutler. The department, along with local non-profit partners and the County of Tulare, provides help to residents suffering from the effects of the historic California drought. We are proud to offer programs that improve the health and safety of Tulare County families.

"The impact our energy programs have on the quality of life of Tulare County residents is invaluable. We are committed to making a meaningful difference in our community by providing residents with support and resources that help them live more energy efficient and financially stable lives."

Nora Carrillo, Director of Energy Services

Energy Services staff members prep emergency bottled water at the East Porterville Drought Resource Center for distribution to drought-impacted residents. Services provided at these one-stop centers include dry well reporting assistance, shower access (East Porterville only), energy and weatherization assistance as well as referral services to partner agencies.

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

Individuals who received energy assistance

4,968

Energy Services workshops held

768

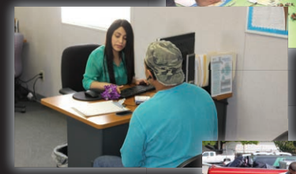
Families who received support from the Gas or Energy Assistance Fund (GAF, EAF)

1,432

Homes Weatherized

66

Families visiting the Energy Services booth.



A resident checks into the Drought Resource Center.

Solar panels being prepped for installation.

Corpsmembers providing water to Drought Resource Fair attendees.

Energy Services staff ready to greet potential participants.

SEQUOIA
COMMUNITY CORPS

The Sequoia Community Corps (SCC) offers vocational training in the trades of construction, solar, weatherization, urban forestry, recycling, electronic waste collection, used oil collection and recycling education. The SCC has successfully operated in Tulare and Kings Counties for the past 30 years and has provided over 4,000 young adults with valuable job training and educational opportunities. In addition to the services offered to young adults, the SCC also assists local governments, agencies and businesses meet critical community needs such as park development, construction of low-income family housing, recycling services and natural resource conservation in local recreation areas. Partners include Self-Help Enterprises, Tulare County Resource Management Agency, the Building Industry Association of Tulare/Kings Counties, Inc., the Urban Tree Foundation and local cities.

"The Sequoia Community Corps remains committed to the young adults we are lucky enough to serve. Our programs provide young men and women with an opportunity to learn leadership skills, develop a work ethic and a passion for the communities in which we all live, work and play."

Teresa Guzman, Director of the SCC Department of Recycling

Corpsmembers in the YouthBuild Program show off a home they helped build in partnership with Self-Help Enterprises. Participants assisted with the home's plumbing, electrical, siding, finish work and landscaping. The YouthBuild Program is designed to assist low-income youth, ages 16-24, earn a high school diploma. The program provides them with extra educational assistance and work skills. Other components include vocational training, leadership development, counseling/case management and post-program placement.

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

Corpsmembers
116

Community service projects
16

Hours of community service
716

Volunteers
116

Trees planted
380

Pounds of e-waste recycled
479,071

Pounds of recycled CRV material
1,276,151

John Muir Charter School students on graduation day.

Public Works corpsmembers work on the Home Garden Community Park in Hanford.

Department of Recycling corpsmembers sort through recycled electronic waste.

Urban Forestry corpsmembers planting a tree at the Pinkham Ponding Basin in Visalia.

John Muir Charter School students attending a "Success in Sobriety" workshop.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

CSET provides workforce development services that assist local businesses to thrive, while training residents of all ages to find their path to good jobs. These services are funded by the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County (WIB), Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, Kings/Tulare Area Agency on Aging, and others. CSET is the WIB's One-Stop Operator for the Employment Connection - a proud partner of America's Job Center of California Network - in Visalia and Porterville, with satellite services in Tulare. Each location is equipped with a Resource Room including computers, printers, and internet access. Businesses attend specialized workshops to speak with job seekers who learn about employment opportunities. Youth gain work readiness and leadership skills, plan for college and careers, and gain valuable experiences through work-based learning.

"CSET works diligently to assist businesses and job seekers to succeed in a competitive economy. We connect job seekers with opportunities from all corners of the employment market, providing them with a variety of job prospects and training opportunities they might not otherwise encounter. We are proud of the work we do to create a competitive workforce that meets local business needs."

Craig Plath, Director of Workforce Development

Job seekers visit an Employment Connection informational booth during a job fair in Porterville. Job fairs include workshops, on-site interviews, resources and more. Booths feature representatives from local business sectors.

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

Individuals served through Workforce Development programs

63,560

Adult workshop enrollments

6,210

Job fair attendees in Visalia & Porterville

1,432

On-The-Job Training, Work Experience or Occupational Skills Training Participants

745

Total WIOA youth served

254

Welfare to Work participants

245

Youth who entered employment or enrolled in post-secondary education

144

Job seekers at CSET's Porterville job fair.

A Youth@Work participant on the job.

The Resource Room at the Visalia Employment Connection.

TECH Connect youth refurbishing old computers.

#LEAD students during a college campus visit.

THANK YOU!

To Our Volunteers:

What we do would not be possible without your dedication and support. Thank you for helping us serve the youth, families and communities of Tulare County.

Abryana Espinoza • Adrianna Barrios • Adrienne Harrison • Aide Cancino • Alex Lozada • Alma Escamilla • Amy Espinosa • Ana Gomez • Ana Parra • Andrew Gomez • Andy Syprasent • Angel Valenzuela • Annette Gonzalez • Armida Quezada • Ashley Tejeda • Aycee Plascencia • Brenda Medrano • Cecilia Quezada • Daniel Gonzalez • David Tapia • Debra Hauber • Dominic Saefong • Dwain Ragsdale • Edwin Gomez • Elisa Rodriguez • Elyssa Martinez • Esmeralda Cortez-Ybarra • Eugene Mendez • Francisco Torres • Gayanjot Toor • George Tapia • Hank Marshall • Helena Kubik • Iliana Casas • Irene Onzures • Isabel Mendoza • Isabel Mendoza V. • Janet Trujillo • Javier Serrano • Jayleen Garcia • Joel Correa • Jonathan Ramos • Juanita Jones • Katherine Chappell • Kayla Grant • Lisbet Villasenor • Lorena Casas • Luz Maria Rodriguez • M. Isabel Valenzuela • Maria Mosqueda • Maricela Angel • Mario Mejia • Marisa Llamas • Marlene Acosta • Mary Alice Escarsega • Mayra Ortega • Mylene Hernandez • Nancy Murillo-Salas • Nereida Corona • Nerissa Bitanga • Nora Aranzaza • Patti Cornelius • Raquel Roa • Robert Enriquez Jr. • Robert Enriquez Sr. • Robert Nash • Roselyn V. Mendez • Ruben Enrique • Ruben Lemus • Sherry Robinson • Skye Woods • Socorro Quezada • Stephanie Guera • Tanya Plascencia • Terrence Schmal • Terri Rumbaugh • Tiffany Gardner • Veronica Cantu • Veronica Serrano-Valencia • Veronica Soria • Yvonne Pierce • Cody Abreu • Cevi Adams • Jose Aguilera • Albert Aguilera • Donald Ajluni • Alex Alcala • Corina Aldaco • Arcelia Aleman • Denise Alvarado • Maritza Andrade • Labi Anni • Rafael Arzola • Martha Atchison • Monica Avila • Rosa Avila • Raymundo Avilez-Iniquez • Angel Avitia • Jennifer Azevedo • Alexis Baltodano • Isabel Bautista • Esequiel Bedolla • Luiza Berbereia • Guillermo Blanco • Cari Bly • Gloria Borunda • Victor Bowker • Mary Brown • Desirae Bryant • Christina Cabrera • Tulia Camacho • Ernie Camacho • Robert Campos • Gilberto Capistran • Joe Cardona • Blanca Carrillo • Martha Casillas • Miriam Cendejas • Albert Cendejas, III • Eddie Cervantes • David Cervantez • Jorge Cisneros • Dominic Clevenger • Jim Collins • Joe Conway • Elaine Conway • Ashley Coulson • Laura Cruz • Ramon Cruz • Jonathan De Leon • Francisco Delgado • Elizabeth Delgado • Guillermo Diaz • Debbie Esparza • Dora Esparza • Larry Esparza • Adair Flores • Norma Fox • Anabella Galindo • Guadalupe Gallardo • Mary Ellen Garcia • Yolanda Garcia • Amirae Garcia • Alisia Garcia • Serenity Garcia • Noe Garcia, Jr. • Noe Garcia, Sr. • Juan Gasca • Raquel Gomez • Santiago Gomez • Librada Gonzalez • Samuel Gonzalez • Glafiro Gonzalez • Crystal Gutierrez • Teresa Guzman • Stacy Heerts • Alexia Hernandez • Connie Hernandez • Charlottia Hines • Keshawn Houston • Emelio Isazaga • Maria Jimenez • Cynthia Juarez • Alice Keplinger • Bernard Lang • Bambi Leroy • Gloria Lopez • Ricky Lopez • Mary Lopez • Sabrina Macias • Emilia Marquez • Sulina Marroquin • Cayetano Martinez • Margaret Martinez • Dayleon Mathis • Mychi McDole • Davis McDole • Linda Mendez • Salvador Mendez • Diane Mendivil • Richard Mendoza • Jose Mendoza • Shalene Miller • Lynda Moore • Rosa Morales • Marcus Morales • Makenzie Murrell • Frances Nava • Brandi Newland • Steven Olea • Dora Pablo • Loveda Palmer • Juan Pena • Elia Perez • Myra Perez • Raquel Perez • Simon Perez • Emilio Perez • Chad Peterson • Theresa Pollak • Derek Pollak • Pablo Puga • Layo Quinonez • Teresa Quintana • Ashley Rangel • Anthony Reyes • Lela Rigdon • Alicia Rios • Jesus Robles • Maria Rocha • Jesus Rodarte • Ronald Rodriguez • Karen Rodriguez • Erlinda Rodriguez • Monica Rodriguez • Eric Rodriguez • Belecia Rodriguez • Raymond Rodriguez • Mike Ruiz • Jesse Ruvalcaba • Otilia Sanchez • Gabriel Sanchez • Sandra Sauceda • John Saunders • Hayden Saures • Nate Serna • Jose Silva • Salvador Solis • Rick Struble • Judith Suarez • Margie Sutton • Sharon Symons • Christel Teesy • Ashley Tejeda • David Tena • Joel Torres • Armando Torres • David Toscana • Domingo Trevino • Carolina Trujillo • Darien Trujillo • Jessica Tyler • Tony Vasquez • Lorraine Villa • Ramon Villagomez • Jose Villalobos • Corrina Wall • Angela Wall • Chayanne Warren • Tommy Weece • Bill Winn