



National Youth Leadership Initiative Continues to Expand

Glendale, Calif. – Over the last two years, the Foundation has dramatically expanded its National Youth Leadership Initiative, a comprehensive service-learning program that integrates academic study with service to enrich learning and character development.

The National Youth Leadership Initiative works with K-12 Educating the Heart Schools in predominantly low-income communities to combat academic and civic disengagement by developing student initiated service-learning programs.

Over the last two years, the Foundation has adopted Educating the Heart Schools in California, Colorado, Texas, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, and New Mexico. Through strategic partnerships with state offices of education, local and state elected officials, and community-based organizations, the Foundation continues to increase the number of Educating the Heart Schools throughout our seven targeted states.

The Foundation's National Youth Leadership Initiative educates young people about the life, work, and values of Cesar Chavez. In addition, the initiative provides them with leadership, advocacy, and critical thinking skills through in-class curricula, service projects in the community, and thoughtful reflection.



It also provides them with the tools they need to address social justice issues in their own communities.

Since its inception, more than 800,000 students have participated in the Foundation's National Youth Leadership Initiative, effectively addressing issues such as affordable housing, hunger and homelessness, water shortages, and school and community improvement, among many other important social issues.

For more information about this exciting program, please visit <http://www.chavezfoundation.org> or contact Julie Chavez Rodriguez at jrodriguez@cecfmail.org.