



**Office of the Governor**

**For Immediate Release**  
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**CALIFORNIAVOLUNTEERS COORDINATE LOCAL RESIDENTS IN OUTREACH AND EDUCATION EFFORT TO PREPARE FOR EXCESSIVE HEAT**

**Fresno, CA** – Today, Secretary of Service and Volunteering, Karen Baker, hosted an educational and outreach event to inform locals on the health impacts related to the excessive heat predicted throughout this week.

The event was held at the Ted C. Wills Community Center which will be used as a local cooling center for residents to escape the high temperatures. Secretary Baker stressed the importance of understanding the impacts of excessive heat and underscored the importance of working together within our communities to prepare for any emergency, and ultimately save lives.

“In a situation such as a heat wave, the community can have a profound impact on preventing vulnerable populations from heat related illness and death,” said Karen Baker, Secretary of Service and Volunteering. “It is crucial that local communities band together to ensure the safety of those who may be at risk.”

Following the press conference, local volunteers canvassed local residential communities to provide preparedness materials and to answer heat related questions.

Attendees included representatives from various state and local agencies including Blong Xiong, Fresno City Council President, Richard Devylder, Special Advisor to Director, Office of Access and Functional Needs at the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, Randall Cooper, Director of Parks, After School, Recreation and Community Services for the City of Fresno and Dr. Ken Bird, Deputy Health Officer, Fresno County.

.For more information regarding California’s heat wave, please visit the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services Web site at [www.oes.ca.gov](http://www.oes.ca.gov).

**ABOUT CALIFORNIAVOLUNTEERS**

CaliforniaVolunteers is the state office that manages programs and initiatives to increase the number of Californians involved with service and volunteering, including the state AmeriCorps program, California Citizen Corps and the Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning. Through the innovative Web site, CaliforniaVolunteers.org, individuals and families can find more than 40,000 volunteer opportunities throughout the state involving the arts, education, animals, disaster preparedness, the environment and other areas of interest. Karen Baker, the nation’s first state cabinet secretary of service and volunteering leads the organization and First Lady Maria Shriver serves as the honorary chairperson. For more information, please visit [www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org](http://www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org).

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