

June 15, 2003

Dear Friend:

We are inviting you to be our guest for a special luncheon on Wednesday, July 23, 2003. As you may be aware, the Governor's Committee's annual Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities (YLF) is being held July 19 – 24, 2003, in Sacramento. The YLF provides an opportunity for approximately 60 outstanding high school juniors and seniors to attend a five-day intensive program focused on career exploration and leadership development.

As part of the YLF program, we are hosting our Mentors Luncheon on **Wednesday, July 23.** The purpose of this luncheon is to allow the student delegates to meet and talk with adults with disabilities who have been successful in a variety of career areas. The program will include a presentation by a YLF alumna plus an opportunity to network with the students after the luncheon. Please plan on staying with us until 2:30 p.m.

If you are not an adult with a disability, you may have received this luncheon invitation because you are a supporter of YLF or a community leader. Please fill out and return the enclosed RSVP form if you would like to attend.

The Friends of the Governor's Committee, Inc., hosts the luncheon. It will be held from 12:15 - 2:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 1st Floor Ballroom, 1201 L Street, Sacramento, with registration at 12:00 noon. Also, if you are driving to this event, you will need to look for street or City Lot Parking, which is identified with "P" signs, or park in the lot adjacent to the hotel.

Because the luncheon is hosted, there will be no charge to you. However, if you can attend, it is a requirement that you return the enclosed RSVP form to the Governor's Committee office by **Friday, July 11.** Also, because seating for the luncheon is limited, we must accept reservations on a first come basis, according to the order of received RSVP forms.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this important event. And for those of you who served as a mentor during this past year, our special thanks! We look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you **July 23!**

Sincerely,

Norman M. Owen, Esq.
Chair
Enc.

Catherine Kelly Baird
Executive Director

**YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM FOR STUDENTS
WITH DISABILITIES (YLF)
MENTORS LUNCHEON GUEST INFORMATION**

(PLEASE READ PRIOR TO THE LUNCHEON)

The YLF Mentors Luncheon is designed to give young people with disabilities the opportunity to interact with adults with disabilities who are successfully working in various career areas. Most of the YLF delegates have just completed their junior or senior year in high school. They were selected as YLF delegates because of their demonstrated leadership at their school and in their community.

This luncheon also provides an opportunity for other YLF supporters and community leaders to observe the YLF project. They may be seated with YLF alumni but not with this year's delegates. The program includes two excellent presentations - one by an exemplary adult with a disability and one by an alumna of the YLF project.

During the Mentors Luncheon, student delegates are assigned to tables that will include volunteer YLF staff. Most importantly, they will meet and sit with the adult with a disability that has agreed to serve as their mentor after the YLF.

To encourage interaction, please come prepared and be aware of the following:

- Each table with student delegates will have a previously assigned facilitator to oversee the table introductions and promote discussion.
- If you are an assigned mentor, you will be seated with your assigned student delegate.
- Be aware that some mentors from outside of the Sacramento area will not be able to attend the luncheon so not every student will be seated with their assigned mentor.
- Introduce yourself to everyone at the table and tell them what you do.
- Ask the delegates about their career interests and/or what they are thinking about in terms of a college major or further training and education.
- Share whatever resources you may have that would assist the delegates – information about professional associations, Independent Living Centers, the role of the Department of Rehabilitation, assistive technology you are aware of or other professional or business contacts that may be helpful.
- Ask the delegates if they have any questions you might be able to answer for them. If applicable, let them know you are willing to answer questions about your disability.
- Enjoy yourself and have a good time!

***(IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE LUNCHEON, YOU MAY TELEPHONE
OUR STAFF OFFICE AT (916) 654-8055, VOICE, OR (916) 654-9828, TTY.)***

YLF MENTORS LUNCHEON RSVP FORM

