

For Immediate Release

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**Gang Reduction and Youth Development Photography Exhibit
"Through Our Eyes"
Presented by El Nido Family Centers**

(Pacoima, CA) What does Pacoima look like when viewed through the eyes of six youth who live there? The answer will appear in an upcoming photography exhibit, "Through Our Eyes" Thursday, July 21, 2011, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at United Threads, located at 418 North Maclay at 4th Street in San Fernando 91340.

The six young photographers who will be showcased are all participants in EL Nido Family Centers' Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) program in Pacoima. Photographs will be available for purchase with 60% of the sale going to the individual artist and the remainder being used for class supplies.

The work represents the culmination of a 14-week photography program taught by photographers, Richard Doran and Robert Chasin. The students worked with digital SLR cameras, and covered all aspects of photography from shutter speed, ISO and aperture to composition and lighting techniques.

GRYD is funded through the Office of the Mayor, City of Los Angeles. Program goals are to reduce gang participation by identifying youth (10–15) who are at high risk for joining gangs. A key strategy is to link youth and families with a broad range of services, engaging them in constructive activities, connecting them with positive social supports and empowering them as agents of change. GRYD serves youth and families living in the Pacoima/Foothill region of the northeast San Fernando Valley.

The exhibit will run from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 21 and from 12:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, July 22 and 23. Admission is free, donations welcome. Parking available.

For more information, interviews or photos, please call E L Doran Public Relations at 818.238.9005 or email eldoranpr@sbcglobal.net. Visit El Nido Family Centers website at elnidofamilycenters.org.

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