



Newsletter

Summer 2018

The Center for Leadership, Equity, and Research (CLEAR) seeks to function under the significance of a social justice leadership movement. Leadership mentoring and leadership development from the "inside out" is of utmost importance to what we do. As such, CLEAR continues to positively impact the Central Valley and beyond by gathering educational and community leaders in order to have the difficult conversations regarding the impact that race, gender, ethnicity, and cultural issues have on our chosen roles as leaders in institutions and in society in general.



The demographics of our state and nation continue to change to a more diverse population. No amount of wishful thinking for the "good ol' days" will change this reality. If we truly want to properly prepare the next generation of leaders we must role model the importance of inclusivity and openly share that "our diversity is part of the solution, not part of the problem." James Ryan, in *Strategic activism, educational leadership and social justice* wrote:

Leadership is very much a moral undertaking that emerges in the process in which leadership activities are organized, and in the ends in which leadership activities are directed. How educational leaders understand and perceive social justice is likely to define what they advocate, and what priorities they have on their social justice agendas...

From its beginning this nonprofit has meant to seek out inequities and address them in a manner of engagement whereby all voices are heard. Leadership mentoring and development is who we are and guide our efforts.

Keep the Faith,

Ken
Founder/President

CLEAR Fifth Annual Golf Tournament

Friday, June 1, 2018

Each year our annual golf tournament raises funds to support youth mentoring programs. In the past few years, we have been honored to support three middle schools through this fundraiser and additional grant monies.

At CLEAR, we believe in equity and this means we believe in ensuring that all students are provided with equitable access to education as well as leadership, academic enrichment, and mentoring to increase student achievement both academically and socio-emotionally.

Funds raised from this year's tournament will provide financial support to continue young men's youth mentoring programs in the Central Valley. These mentoring programs serve at-risk 7th and 8th grade students to address the behavioral and academic issues that many of our young men encounter. Through a leadership and character building curriculum, program coordinators and teachers focus on building leadership skills, enhancing academic achievement levels, improve attendance, lower detention and suspension.



[Learn more here.](#)

CLEAR Leadership Mentoring Program - Cohort 6

As we have learned over the years, there are numerous benefits to participating in a mentoring program. Of these, I believe that having the opportunity to network with other educational leaders is among the most important. As Cohort 6 reached the end of its yearlong participation in the CLEAR Leadership Mentoring Program on June 23, 2018, I am pleased to say that members of the cohort were able to realize and benefit from meeting with each other while discussing sensitive subjects such as race and culture usually not otherwise available for discussion, while also focusing on leadership as the nexus of our program.

Cohort 6 members also became aware that mentoring in our program includes the development of lifelong professional and personal relationships. We are confident that mentor and protégé relationships will continue to grow and develop in the coming years. It is also an important factor of the CLEAR culture that past participants of the Leadership Mentoring Program desire to "give back" to the program and choose to become mentors sometime in the future.

As such, CLEAR leadership has begun recruitment for our next Leadership Mentoring Cohort...Cohort #7. If you are interested in participating in our program, please feel free to reach out to me at kmagdalenoclearvoz.com Cohort benefits for protégés (and in turn, mentors), as always, include the following:

1. Faster and increased knowledge of what "leadership" entails (shortens the learning curve)
2. Learn where the "minefields" are that must be missed
3. Feel more competent and as a result, more confident
4. Increased job satisfaction
5. You are confident enough to put what you have learned into practice
6. Mentoring relationships often increase networking opportunities, both personally and professionally

Thank you Cohort 6...welcome Cohort 7



CLEAR Leadership Mentoring Program Cohort 7

Now accepting applications for Cohort 7. Applications are due July 9, 2018.

What is the CLEAR Leadership Mentoring Program?

The Center for Leadership, Equity, and Research (CLEAR) Leadership Mentoring Program provides participants with an opportunity to participate in a formal and structured mentoring program. Mentors and protégés work together to develop goals and objectives that guide each towards a more meaningful

leadership experience whereby participants combine professional learning and mentoring to succeed as a leader. The CLEAR Leadership Mentoring Program develops a "mentoring culture" whereby mentors and protégés, together with other like-minded leaders, seize upon the opportunity to implement and participate in "Praxis" or "Intentional Activism," meant to change the manner in which "things have always been done."

[Learn more here.](#)

CLEAR Social Justice and Equity Institute 2018

March 9, 2018



Intentional Activism:

Moving Leaders Beyond Courageous Conversations

Presented by the Center for Leadership, Equity, and Research (CLEAR) and Illuminate Education, the Central Valley Spring Institute was a one-day gathering bringing together P-12, business, and community leaders to develop equity steps "beyond Courageous Conversations." Sessions focused on strategic forms of "intentional activism" in order to meet the needs of underserved students and communities.



Left: Dr. Ben Drati, Superintendent, Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District
Right: Dr. Ken Magdaleno, CLEAR Founder/CEO/President



Left: Linda Vang, CLEAR Board Member
Right: Adriana Cervantes-Gonzalez, CLEAR Board Member



Dr. Felipe Mercado, Vice Principal,
Madera Unified School District



Left: Dr. Kathleen Schock, Deputy Director California College Guidance Initiative
Middle: Dr. Valerie Martinez, Principal, Fresno Unified School District
Right: Dr. Steve Martinez, Superintendent, Twin Rivers Unified School District

What are CLEAR members up to? *National Leadership Summit in Chicago*

CLEAR Member, Froylan Martinez, was proud to represent educators from Northern California at the NEA National Leadership Summit 2018 in Chicago, which took place from March 16-18. He shared that the NEA National Leadership Summit is an annual experience that unifies a strategic and interdisciplinary approach to developing education leaders and further developing NEA's distinctive leadership brand. The NEA National Leadership Summit develops the next generation of leaders and activist leaders by preparing them with the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to lead relevant, thriving associations in their profession. Over 2000 educators from across the United States were in attendance and Froylan, along with two other members, were representatives from areas north of Sacramento.

He attended sessions that would enhance his advocacy and networking skills to better serve students in the Northern California region. One session was *Courageous Conversation: Implicit Bias & Creating Culturally Relevant Learning Environments* where they examined the implicit bias educators bring into the classroom and how to work towards creating an instructional environment that is culturally relevant and welcoming for all students. Another session Froylan attended was *Organizing Association Instructional Leaders to Lead on Equity*, which focused on teaching participants how to collaborate among state affiliates, locals/councils, higher education, school districts and communities of color to create the *Culturally Responsive Classroom Management (CRCM)* curriculum. He also attended two other sessions which focused on *Leadership and Empowerment: The Role of the Union Representative at the School Level*; and *Leadership and Advocacy in the Trenches - Finding Your Voice and Creating Effective Teams*.

Congratulations to Froylan as he continues his professional growth.



CLEAR Member Spotlight



Jose "JoJo" Reyes is the new Director of Special Education at Mendota Unified. He will provide leadership and vision for the district's Special Education and Student Support Services departments. Prior to this position, Dr. Reyes was the Director of Adult Education and Alternative Programs in Central Unified School District in Fresno, CA. In this capacity, Dr. Reyes is responsible for two schools on one site supporting both K-12 and Adult Education programs. He is currently in his 19th year of education having served many leadership roles in the K-12, Adult and college settings. These positions include Guidance Learning Counselor, Vice-Principal, Principal, Director and Adjunct Faculty. Dr. Reyes specializes in relationship building, instructional leadership, mentoring, school-wide structural supports, dealing with difficult students, teacher support and overall capacity building. Dr.

Reyes believes that the ability to provide a service which ultimately makes a change in a person's life is very empowering. He and his wife Michele, who is also in education, have four children spread throughout elementary, middle and high school. Dr. Reyes holds an undergraduate degree in Speech Communication, Master of Arts in Special Education, and a Doctorate in Education specializing in Curriculum and Instruction.

Dr. Reyes also serves as a CLEAR Mentor and is a member of the CLEAR 2020 Strategic Planning Task Force Team. His research interests are in the areas of equity and school-wide structures to create pathways for success for all students. JoJo continues to work with schools, organizations and partnerships in order to support underrepresented k-12 and adult populations.

STAY CONNECTED:

