

For Immediate Release

MAYOR DELLUMS KICKS-OFF 2010 MAYOR'S SUMMER JOBS PROGRAM

OAKLAND – Mayor Ron Dellums today kicked-off the annual campaign to provide quality summer jobs for Oakland's young people. The Mayor's Summer Jobs Program is a collaboration that brings together the Youth Employment Partnership (YEP), Scotlan Center, and Youth UpRising to make an investment in Oakland's future workforce by providing opportunities for youth in the city's job market. The mayor urged young Oakland residents (ages 14 to 21) to submit an application.

“Providing jobs for youth offers valuable work and life skills training that will carry over into their school performance and beyond,” said Mayor Dellums. “Facilitating meaningful summer employment opportunities for Oakland's youth is an effective violence prevention strategy. These jobs will work to provide our youngsters with the resources and experience necessary to be successful today and well into the future.”

Applications for the 2010 MSJP can be found at: www.oaklandnet.com or <http://www2.oaklandnet.com/oakca/groups/mayor/documents/pressrelease/dowd007996.pdf>.

The Mayor's Summer Job Program provides young people with full and part-time work in areas, such as: multi-media, medical, animal care, education, food service, and green jobs. Applications and program information are available at the hubs below, on the city's Web site (www.oaklandnet.com), or by calling the YEP at (510) 533-3447. Completed MSJP applications can be returned to any four hubs throughout the city, including:

Citywide Hub:

Youth Employment Partnership (YEP)
2300 International Blvd.
510-533-3447

East Oakland Hub:

Youth Uprising
8711 MacArthur Blvd
510-777-9909

West Oakland Hub:

Scotlan Center
1324 Adeline Street
510-832-4544

Unemployment among Oakland residents is approximately 18 percent (among youth, the estimates are higher). It is the priority of this program to reach the most vulnerable youth and to prepare them with job readiness skills. Often, youth face a number of obstacles that limit their ability to find work. Such factors include: living in areas of high concentrated poverty, living in fragmented households; having under or perpetually unemployed parents; low education attainment, and exposure to violence. Since 2007, Mayor Dellums has built on efforts, such as the Mayor's Summer Jobs Program, to emphasize positive assets and resilience in individuals, families and communities. He refers to this strategy as Prevention, Intervention, Enforcement, and Sustainability (PIES). As documented in many studies, the best crime prevention strategy is employment.

