



## Media Advisory

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### **LOS ANGELES MENTOR SUMMIT SEEKS TO BUILD PERMANENT RELATIONSHIPS FOR AT-RISK YOUTH:**

*Community organizations will collaborate to give each child  
a stable, caring adult they can call on for help.*

**WHAT:** Los Angeles County's first Mentor Summit, "***Building Lifelong Connections For At Risk Youth***" will be held as part of the May, 2005 Foster Care Awareness Campaign on Friday, May 13, 2005. The Mentor Summit hopes to promote the importance of mentoring for at-risk youth, make mentoring an essential component in planning for their future, and involve community and faith-based organizations in developing and expanding resources for these youth.

**WHY:** Having access to a positive adult role model can dramatically help shape positive outcomes for youth – especially when such youth come from broken homes or end up in foster care or probation camps. Studies reveal that alarming percentages of emancipating foster youth end up homeless or incarcerated. As the home to one in ten of all foster youth in the country, L.A. County is particularly in need of mentoring resources.

**WHO:** Featured Speakers include:  
**Kashif** - Six time Grammy nominee, R&B Hall of Fame inductee, performer, songwriter, author, former foster youth and National Foster Care Month spokesperson.  
**Sharon Davis** – Former California First Lady and a principle leader in mentoring issues.  
**Dr. David Sanders** - Director Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services  
**Berisha Black** – Los Angeles County Emancipation Ombudsman and former foster youth

On-site interviews with speakers, youth and representatives from the leading organizations in Los Angeles working with youth and mentoring are available.

**WHEN:** Friday, May 13, 2005  
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

**WHERE:** Salvation Army Community Center  
7651 South Central Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90001

*Complimentary secured parking has been arranged at the lot on the NE corner of 77<sup>th</sup> Place and Central.*