January 30, 2017

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of our team at the Center for Human Services, UC Davis Extension, I’d like to invite you to a special gathering of human services leaders on May 9, 2017, on the UC Davis campus. This year marks our first official Human Services Leaders’ Summit, and the theme for this year’s event is Connecting for Community.

This special event will bring together 200-250 human services leaders, specifically graduates of our Leadership Development and Management Development Programs and the executive leaders from across the state that support them, to listen, share and learn with and from each other about our work. The objective of this gathering is to create a unique community-building experience. Participants will have the opportunity to connect, learn and share in a highly engaging and interactive environment. We will not host “expert” panels or speakers. Instead, there will be brief, thought-provoking presentations, followed by discussion and sharing. The gathering aims to be an example of collaboration in practice, with careful consideration given to how the event itself exemplifies the kind of collaboration and community building we aspire to create in our own communities.

Our time together will be guided by world-renowned facilitator Charles Holmes. Charles is a close colleague of Peter Block and will be sharing many of the principles and practices that are captured in Peter’s book, Community: The Structure of Belonging.

This gathering—along with activities and actions we will take after the gathering—are part of the Center’s commitment to strengthening the network of human services leaders throughout the state. We firmly believe there is much we can learn from one another and that by building our learning community, we will be better able to serve the communities we serve.

We hope you “save the date” and plan to join us on May 9. Within the next few weeks we will forward information on to you regarding registration and cost for the gathering. If you are unable to attend, we will certainly keep you informed and share the outcomes of the gathering with you.

Kindly,

Kathy Jones Kelley, M.S.W.
Program Director, Center for Human Services
UC Davis Extension