



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 29, 2010

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POP STAR FRANKIE J PERFORMS FOR FOSTER YOUTH

Author Alex Montoya is Keynote Speaker at HHSAs Youth Empowerment Summit

WHAT: Pop star Frankie J will perform for foster youth attending the Youth Empowerment Summit—a day of entertainment, inspiration and empowerment.

Alex Montoya, Manager of Latino Relations for the San Diego Padres and author of “Swinging for the Fences”, will be the keynote speaker at the Summit, an annual event organized by the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency (HHSAs).

Supervisor Greg Cox, a strong supporter of programs and services for foster youth, will give opening remarks and welcome the teens to the annual event.

WHEN: **SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2010 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.**
9:00 a.m.—Welcome by Supervisor Greg Cox
9:15 a.m.—Alex Montoya
11 a.m.—Youth Workshops
12:45 p.m.—Frankie J Performance

WHERE: **Turning the Hearts Center**
345 5th Avenue, Chula Vista

WHY: Completing school and holding a job for at least three months are major indicators for youth success. Youth who have faced challenges due to multiple living environments and lack of stability often face additional challenges later in life.

Studies have shown that mentoring has a positive impact on youth. It reduces drug and alcohol use, improves school attendance, increases academic performance, and decreases adolescent violence, while teaching life and independent living skills.

The Youth Empowerment Summit is sponsored by HHSAs, Casey Family Programs, South Bay Community Services, Turning the Hearts Center, Operation Samahan, Inc., SDSU School of Social Work and Job Corps.

"EDITORS NOTE: Due to confidentiality concerns, please do not shoot recognizable photographs or video of foster children. Selected foster youth will be available for interviews at the event."

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