



Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission

# Media Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
August 16, 2010

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## **NEWLY APPOINTED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BEGINS HELPING PEOPLE AND CHANGING LIVES AT EOC**

*- Brian Angus brings with him 38 years of coalition building and Community Action experience -*

**(Fresno, CA)** Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC) is pleased to announce that Brian Angus has begun his role with EOC as the agency's newly appointed Executive Director. Mr. Angus brings to the agency a successful track record of building and leading nationally recognized coalitions as well as the passion and drive to empowering the low-income and disenfranchised.

For over 38 years, his entire professional career has been dedicated to Community Action. Before coming to EOC, Mr. Angus served as Chief Executive Director of Anne Arundel Economic Opportunity Committee. As CEO, Angus restructured and strengthened agency governance and finance by clearing the agency's \$30,000 per month deficit to become the financially healthy community action agency it is today.

The hallmark of his career was organizing three nationally recognized community coalitions. In the 1980s, Mr. Angus organized the Fitchburg Action to Conserve Energy (FACE), which was recognized by President Jimmy Carter as the nation's first low- and no-cost community energy education program. In the 1990s, the Fitchburg Safe and Healthy Neighborhood Coalition (FSHNC) took on gangs by tackling issues of health, race, violence and public safety in the city of Fitchburg, Massachusetts. The FSHNC is credited for a 90% reduction in drive-by shootings and a 75% reduction in gang related incidences. The work and impact of this coalition led to Fitchburg being named a 1994 All America City by the National Civic League. Most recently, the Poverty Task Force has developed a poverty reduction framework for Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

"I take the core purpose of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 to be a personal mission statement of mine," says Brian Angus. "My time in community action to 'eliminate the paradox of poverty' and to give those a chance to 'live in decency and dignity' is definitely my passion. I plan on continuing this mission as Executive Director of Fresno County EOC."



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### **About Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission (EOC)**

For over 44 years, Fresno County EOC – a private, nonprofit agency – has helped low-income Fresno County residents become self-sufficient. EOC offers over 30 comprehensive community-based programs that develop an individual's capabilities and places them on the path toward financial independence.

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