



COMMUNITY WATER CENTER
EL CENTRO COMUNITARIO POR EL AGUA

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MEDIA ADVISORY FOR FRIDAY JUNE 7

FUSD Trustee, Diverse Valley Coalition Call For Safe Water Fund

(Fresno, CA) Genoveva Islas, who represents Fresno Unified District 4, residents who are impacted by unsafe drinking water, advocates and health professionals from across the Valley will rally Friday to support the establishment of a safe, affordable drinking water fund.

More than one million Californians and hundreds of communities are impacted by unsafe drinking water each day. This is a statewide crisis, however low-income communities and communities of color are hit the hardest.

Overall, more than 300 public water systems in California are out of compliance with state standards for harmful contaminants including arsenic and nitrates.

Meanwhile, more than 800 schools in California have lead-contaminated drinking water in excess of 5 parts per billion, according to a report released by CALPIRG. There is no safe level of lead.

To effectively address this crisis, our leaders should ensure that responsible parties pay their fair share and that the fund:

- Provides permanent funding for drinking water in the amount of at least \$150 million annually
- Includes resources for state smalls, domestic wells and school districts
- Addresses all contaminants including lead and secondary contaminants
- Is protected from borrowing by the general fund and protected from diminution or cancellation

WHO: FUSD Trustee Genoveva Islas, residents from across the Valley

WHAT: Press conference to support a safe, affordable drinking water fund

WHEN: Friday, June 7, 2019 at 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Gaston Middle School, 1100 E. Church Ave, Fresno, CA 93706

ABOUT LEADERSHIP COUNSEL FOR JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Leadership Counsel works alongside the most impacted communities to advocate for sound policy and eradicate injustice to secure equal access to opportunity regardless of wealth, race, income and place. We work with community leaders throughout the San Joaquin Valley and Eastern Coachella Valley on such issues as safe affordable drinking water, basic transit services, wastewater services, decent affordable housing, and the right to live free from industrial pollution with infrastructure that supports healthy lifestyles. Through co-powerment, organizing, litigation, policy advocacy, and research, we

confront California's stark inequalities manifest in too many of California's low-income communities and communities of color. www.leadershipcounsel.org Twitter: @LCJandA, Instagram: leadership_counsel

ABOUT COMMUNITY WATER CENTER

Community Water Center (CWC) is a nonprofit environmental justice organization based in California whose mission is to act as a catalyst for community-driven water solutions through organizing, education, and advocacy. CWC's fundamental goal is to ensure that all communities have access to safe, clean, and affordable water. CWC helps build strategic grassroots capacity to address water challenges in small, rural, low-income communities and communities of color. For more information, visit CWC's website at www.communitywatercenter.org and follow us on Twitter at [@CWaterC](https://twitter.com/CWaterC).

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