

# Is 2019 a Tipping Point for California Youth Education Support Policies?

*Oakland nonprofit, Lincoln, hosts two panel discussions in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties to lead social services conversations in the New Year.*

OAKLAND, CA, UNITED STATES,  
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EINPresswire.com/ -- [Lincoln](#), a nonprofit headquartered in Oakland, is hosting [two panel discussions](#) to explore issues related to the expanding needs for integrated support services for children and youth in East Bay communities. The forum will feature legislators, policy makers, education and mental health leaders. There will be two opportunities to join this important conversation. The first will take place in Oakland on January 4th, 2019 and the second will take place in Pittsburg on January 11, 2019; both from 9am – 12 noon.



The forums led by newly elected California State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond, has drawn large crowds of professionals, policy makers, and community leaders since 2013. “With the cost of housing in the Bay Area rising, it’s essential we address how the Bay Area housing crisis and resulting migration are impacting children, youth, and families, expanding the need for support services throughout the East Bay, and how the new administration’s policies will affect that,” said Christine Stoner-Mertz, President and CEO of Lincoln. “It’s essential that we invest in our children and youth to ensure that we meet children, youth, and families wherever they are whenever possible.”

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<http://lincolnfamilies.org/leadership/christine-stoner-mertz>

Confirmed for the forums include Assemblymember Rob Bonta, Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson, Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan, Alameda County Superintendent of Schools Karen Monroe, Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, Assemblymember Jim Frazier, Contra Costa County Superintendent of Schools, Lynn Mackey, Dr. Rhea Boyd, Youth UpRising President and CEO, Dr. Macheo Payne, First 5 Contra Costa Executive Director Sean Casey, California Director of Special Education, Kristin Wright, Lincoln President and CEO, Christine Stoner-Mertz, speakers from Youth in Mind, and others.

To [register](#) for the free events, visit [LincolnFamilies.org/events](http://LincolnFamilies.org/events) or call Lincoln at 510.273.4700, x4321.

About Lincoln

Founded in 1883 as the first racially integrated orphanage in Northern California, our mission remains timeless: Lincoln disrupts the cycle of poverty and trauma, empowering children and families to build strong futures. Today, Lincoln impacts more than 27,000 children and their families in the most underserved communities of the greater San Francisco Bay Area through educational engagement, family strengthening, and well-being programs. An innovative approach, providing comprehensive school, community, and family-focused services, combined with a unique team-based delivery and sound fiscal management, has established Lincoln as a leading regional provider of children and family services. With Lincoln, kids attend school, learn to read, and stay with their families where they do best. For more information and stories, visit [LincolnFamilies.org](http://LincolnFamilies.org).

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