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**For Immediate Release**

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Tulare County/District Special Education Local Plan Area Announces:

**Child Find Project Seeks Children Needing Special Services**

Parents or friends who believe that a child may have a mental or physical disability can obtain assistance from the Tulare County Office of Education or their local school district. The **Child Find Project** is designed to identify children who may be in need of special education services and connect them with appropriate educational programs.

Special education services and programs are available in Tulare County for children with disabilities from birth through 21 years of age. Services are available for children with disabilities in speech, sight or hearing, those with orthopedic or other health impairments, learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, behavior disorders, and those who are developmentally disabled.

The goal of the **Child Find Project** is to ensure every child in Tulare County attends school and receives appropriate services. Child Find accepts referrals and screens children who may have a disability. The child is then referred to an appropriate educational program for evaluation and/or

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services. Assessments are provided at no cost to parents. Information is confidential and the privacy of children and parents is protected.

Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak says, “The **Child Find Project** is an excellent way of notifying parents of extraordinary services and compassionate people here to help children who have disabilities.”

Additional information regarding special education services and programs may be obtained by calling the **Child Find Project**, Tulare County Office of Education at (559) 730-2910, Ext 5120.

## **Child Find Radio Spot (2011-12 Campaign)**

Do you know that every child with a disability has the right to a free, appropriate public education? The Tulare County Child Find Project can assist with referring children to appropriate educational programs. Children with disabilities may be eligible for educational services from birth through age 21.

If you know of a child with a disability who is not receiving services, please call Child Find at (559) 730-2910, Ext 5120 for more information or to make a referral.

# TCOE #

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**Tulare County**  
**Office of Education**  
Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools