



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 2009**

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## **EOYDC Celebrates 30 Years of Changing Lives One Day At A Time With Commemorative Book Featuring Stories From 30 Alumni**

*Personal accounts from business people, actors, musicians and sports stars*

**OAKLAND, CA** — The East Oakland Youth Development Center (“EOYDC”) is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the release of the commemorative book **Changing Lives One Day At A Time**, which features interviews with 30 people who have been deeply influenced by EOYDC’s programs. Although alumni stories range from high school teachers to celebrities, from recent high school graduates to well established business people, what they have in common is that they have all experienced a life-defining moment at EOYDC.

EOYDC, a vision of former Clorox Company CEO Bob Shetterly, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit youth center established in 1978. For three decades, the EOYDC has provided educational, athletic, arts and employment programs at no cost to the public. Located in an economically depressed, high crime area of Oakland, EOYDC provides a safe haven for all children to learn and grow. The 30,000-square foot multidimensional facility serves 2,000 youth and youth adults annually. The college preparatory program has a 100 percent acceptance rate and a 96 percent graduation rate, and more than 300 youth are placed in jobs each year. EOYDC’s youth-led program is a model for youth centers across the world.

**Changing Lives One Day At A Time** includes alumni stories from:

- Mark Curry, comedian and actor, remembers how the Center inspired him to make a life “outside the ghetto.”
- Rickia Hamilton, a Los Angeles public school teacher, tells how EOYDC put the odds of success in her favor.
- Nick Mazur, Ph.D. candidate and Oakland track coach, challenges students to run a good race in life.
- Brian Shaw, LA Lakers assistant coach, learned his first lessons in basketball and business at the Center.
- Marcus Thompson, a reporter, recounts how he fell in love with EOYDC and the free chocolate milk.
- Gary Payton, NBA star, considers the Center an “oasis in the middle of a storm.”
- Dwayne Wiggins, from R&B trio Tony! Toni! Toné!, found space at EOYDC to launch the band’s career.

“For 30 years, EOYDC has been a change agent, redirecting agendas and saving lives, and every year hundreds of people have amazing stories of transformation to tell. This book provides a lens that allows you to look closely at 30 alumni—just a few of the thousands who have been affected by participating in the rich offerings at the Center,” said Regina Jackson, EOYDC Executive Director, who recently received the Jefferson Award for Public Service. “These 30 alumni reflect the best leadership in education, athletics, business, music, art and more. These personal testimonies also show that participation in our programming has inspired a renewed interest in service areas like teaching, nonprofit participation and community work.”

EOYDC’s book **Changing Lives One Day At A Time** was financially supported and designed by The Clorox Company. Wordsmith Communications & Public Relations provided editorial consulting and conducted alumni interviews. Printing was made possible by AT&T, Coliseum Lexus, Kaiser Permanente, the Safeway Foundation, Waste Management and the Wells Fargo Foundation. For more information about the EOYDC visit [www.eoydc.org](http://www.eoydc.org) or call (510) 569-8088.