

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TRI-VALLEY BUSINESS COUNCIL SPONSORS “HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT” OCTOBER 17**

PLEASANTON, CA (October 07, 2008) – The Tri-Valley Business Council (www.trivalley.org) will host a Health Care Industry Workforce Development Summit on Oct. 17 in order to foster a new generation workforce for the growing health care industry in the Tri-Valley region. The Summit – scheduled from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Carr America Auditorium, 4400 Rosewood in Pleasanton – will include health care industry professionals and associations as well as Tri-Valley education leaders, local government representatives and public agency officials. California State Assemblymember Mary Hayashi (D) – a leading advocate for expanded health care services – will be the keynote speaker.

“High quality, widely available health care is dependent on skilled and dedicated workers,” said Ms. Hayashi. “With health care needs escalating, there are tremendous new opportunities for career-seekers looking to enter this exciting field. I’ve written and passed legislation to advance health care initiatives and I’m pleased the Tri-Valley Business Council is holding this summit to discuss and examine the workforce supporting this industry.”

This event is open to the public, with an admission fee of \$35. Registration is at www.trivalley.org.

Sponsored by Kaiser Permanente, the Summit will launch a regional workforce development strategy to increase the number of Tri-Valley graduates entering health care professions. It is estimated that the industry needs as many as five to six times more new entrants to health care professions beyond the current capacity of the Tri-Valley’s educational systems.

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“This Summit is designed to engage our business and educational leaders in working together to build a strong health care-focused regional workforce,” said Tri-Valley Business Council CEO & President Toby Brink. ““We're inviting leaders from across the region to join the dialogue about this essential element of life in the Tri-Valley as our population grows and changes.”

The summit will specifically address health care industry workforce trends, examine a health care education model, and include a panel discussion by healthcare and education experts on how the health care industry and educators can best partner to meet the needs of health care employers and career-seekers.

Along with the keynote by Assemblymember Hayashi, speakers at the summit include representatives from Kaiser Permanente, ValleyCare Health System, allied health providers, California State University - East Bay, the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District, Chabot Community College and NUresume.

Hospitals, clinics, physician groups, dentists, pharmacy chains, mental health facilities, nursing homes, and vision care providers are expected at the event, as are education leaders from the Tri-Valley.

Jim Caldwell, Chair of the Tri-Valley Business Council's Education Partners Council, said that “We would like the summit to create an industry and education partnership that can benefit the health care industry across the Tri-Valley region.” For more information about the summit, please contact Jim Caldwell at (925) 292-2308 or send an email to: jcaldwell@workforceincubator.org.

Additional Background on the Tri-Valley Business Council:

The Tri-Valley Business Council was founded in 1994 by a group of visionary business people who were interested in establishing a private sector voice for regional issues that impact economic vitality or the quality of life within the Tri-Valley region. Its focus has primarily been on the cities of Dublin, Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon and the Town of Danville. The Tri-Valley Business Council's Education Partners Initiative is designed to help develop educational programs and leadership that meets the priority needs of Tri-Valley industry. For more information, please visit www.tri-valley.org or call CEO Toby Brink at 925/227-1824.

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