

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Bernardino Valley College Hosts Weeklong Leadership Academy for Young Women

Sponsored by the BLU Educational Foundation, the event focused on African American women's history, leadership, goal setting and career planning.

SAN BERNARDINO, California (June 29, 2016) — A recent series of workshops at San Bernardino Valley College educated young women about the importance of aspiring to leadership roles to bring about change in their local communities.

Sponsored by the BLU Educational Foundation, the *Soul Sisters Leadership Academy* was launched on July 18 and attended by several dozen local high school and college students, ages 14 to 21. Workshops focused on African American women's history, self-identity, racism, sexism, and the importance of women taking leadership positions on school and college campuses.

"I am glad that we can discuss the realities of discrimination in a safe and open environment," says Ana Stewart, an SBVC economics major. "I don't think there is enough discussion about the challenges of being minority and female in the Inland Empire."

Debra Robertson, the mayor of Rialto, shared an inspiring account of her own path to becoming the first black mayor of her city, referencing her family's long history of community involvement.

For more information on the BLU Educational Foundation, visit www.bluedfoundation.org



About San Bernardino Valley College

San Bernardino Valley College is a comprehensive community college in the heart of Southern California that provides quality education and services that support a diverse student body. A regional leader in career and technical education, San Bernardino Valley College serves over 12,000 students every semester and offers over 140 degrees, certificates and transfer programs to four-year institutions. San Bernardino Valley College is part of the San Bernardino Community College District.

www.valleycollege.edu    