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Note to Editor: To request photos of Michelle Odell and Erica Taylor, please send an email to:
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Los Rios Foundation Elects Odell, Taylor to Board

SACRAMENTO -- The Los Rios Foundation has elected Michelle Odell of Kaiser Permanente and Erica Taylor of Five Star Bank as the two newest members of its volunteer board of directors.

“The board is thrilled to have Michelle and Erica join us and bring their immense talents to the foundation,” said Board Chair Jean Foster. “We consider ourselves very fortunate to be able to tap into their insights and community contacts. The foundation looks forward to working closely with these two significant community leaders.” The Los Rios Foundation’s mission is to invest in the students of the Los Rios Community College District to help them succeed and reach their educational goals.

Odell is the director of public affairs for Kaiser Permanente’s South Sacramento/Elk Grove area, which serves more than 200,000 members and is the leading health care provider in south Sacramento County. She oversees all aspects of public affairs for Kaiser Permanente in the region, including: community relations; government relations; community health and community benefit planning; and internal and external communications, including media relations. Before becoming public affairs director in June 2008, she spent nine years at *The Sacramento Bee*, serving as its public affairs manager from 1999 to 2008.

Odell has a bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Oregon. She is a senior fellow of the American Leadership Forum and serves on the board of directors of WEAVE, the Elk Grove Economic Development Corp., and Sacramento Covered.

Taylor is the vice president, communications and community relations director for Five Star Bank. She joined the bank in 2008 and currently leads its marketing, advertising, employee communication and community relations efforts. Prior to joining Five Star Bank, she served as the marketing manager at

Capital Public Radio; as the communications manager at the Sacramento Children's Home; and as a broadcast journalist at KVIQ-TV in Eureka and KQMS – Newstalk 1400 in Redding,

She holds a master's degree in communication studies from California State University, Sacramento, and a bachelor's degree from Humboldt State University in journalism with an emphasis on public relations and a minor in broadcast news. Taylor serves on the leadership council of Metro EDGE and serves on the board of directors of Sacramento Covered, NextED and the Sacramento Unified Education Foundation.

Beverly "Babs" Sandeen, Los Rios' vice chancellor for resource and economic development and president of the Los Rios Foundation, said, "I am excited to have Michelle Odell and Erica Taylor join the board. Their commitment to our mission and their passion to create a prosperous Sacramento region is a huge benefit to us."

ABOUT LOS RIOS

The Los Rios Community College District is one of the nation's most respected learning institutions and the second-largest community college district in California, serving the greater Sacramento region. Los Rios includes: American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City colleges; six major education and outreach centers; and specialized workforce and economic development programs, for regional businesses, governments and organizations. Los Rios colleges offer AA/AS degrees, certificates and transfer-education opportunities in more than 70 career fields. The District's 2,400-square mile service area includes all of Sacramento and El Dorado counties and parts of Yolo, Placer and Solano counties. About 77,000 students are enrolled in the four Los Rios colleges. For more information, go to www.losrios.edu.

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