



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2009

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**Local Non-Profit Announces Appointment of New Vice President/Director of
Operations for Kern County**

PathPoint Welcomes Mike Butler!

BAKERSFIELD, CA – The non-profit organization, PathPoint, cordially welcomes Mike Butler as Vice President/Director for Kern County.

Founded in Santa Barbara in 1964, the mission of PathPoint is to provide comprehensive training and support services that empower people with disabilities or disadvantages to live and work as valued members of their communities.

Today, PathPoint provides independent living, day and employment services to 2,146 people within Kern County and four other counties.

“I wanted to work for PathPoint because their primary focus is not only to help their clients realize their own value in the community; but to also educate the community as to the true value that people with disabilities bring to the community,” says Butler who mentioned that PathPoint’s employment services and community access services currently support 59 residents in Kern County.

Butler’s role with PathPoint will include providing overall leadership and strategic direction in Kern County, while building and maintaining positive relationships with local businesses and organizations.

Butler, a native of Bishop California, has been a part of the Bakersfield community since 1985. Butler’s community involvement includes, or has included, membership in the Bakersfield Breakfast Rotary; founding President of CSUB’s Community Service Cooperative, memberships on the CSUB Community Engagement Subcommittee, Community Partnership Strategic Planning Committee, University Master-Plan Committee, President’s University Council, and past affiliations with the Executives Association of Kern County, Bakersfield Downtown Business Association, Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, and the Better Business Bureau. Butler has also served as a volunteer Coach for Fun Sports and Upward youth programs, and as a volunteer Football Coach for seven years with the Kern County High School District at Foothill, Liberty, and Highland High Schools.

Prior to PathPoint, Butler owned and operated a local business in Bakersfield called Western Design Studio following many years in the Petroleum industry at San Joaquin Refining. Most recently he served as Coordinator for the Office of Community Partnerships & Service-Learning at California State University, Bakersfield.

Currently completing an M.A. degree in Psychology at Cal State, Bakersfield, Butler earned his B.A. degree (Cum Laude) also in Psychology from CSUB and an A.A. (Summa Cum Laude) in Liberal Studies from Bakersfield College. Butler currently lives in Bakersfield with his spouse, Kerri. Combined they have three “amazing” children (John, 27, Sarah, 23, Baylie, 12), a beautiful daughter-in-law (Stephanie), and one grandchild (Zachary). To learn more about PathPoint, please visit www.pathpoint.org, or call Mike at (661) 617-6170, or visit the PathPoint office at 4701 Stockdale Highway.

Connecting people, purpose and communities since 1964, PathPoint (formerly known as Work Training Programs) is a non profit organization providing comprehensive training and support services that empower people with disabilities of disadvantages to live and work as valued community members. PathPoint serves 2,146 people in the communities of San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Kern and Los Angeles.

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