

**TO: Youth Council**

**DATE: December 10, 2003**

**FROM: Youth Council Staff**

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

**SUBJECT: Architects of Change Award**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S): Info Only**

**DISCUSSION:** The Merced County Workforce Investment Board Youth Council has been awarded the “Architect of Change “ award. On November 20, 2003, the California Youth Council Institute and the State Youth Council presented the award, in ceremonies at Sacramento, to Ms. Nellie McGarry, Youth Council Chair, who accepted in behalf of the Youth Council and its program providers.

“All Youth-One System” outlines what is needed for a community to offer effective, high-quality services for all youth. In an “All Youth-One System” community, the local Youth Council adopts a comprehensive approach to ensure academic excellence, provide career preparation, enhance youth development and support, and foster youth leadership. The Merced County Youth Council has embraced the “All Youth-One System” since its inception.

“These local Youth Councils have shown real leadership in their communities, and have had a significant impact on the youth they serve,” said Steve Trippe, President of New Ways to Work, the managing partner for the Youth Council Institute. “Their innovative approaches to addressing the many needs of young people throughout California serve as powerful models for the entire nation.”

In the Central Valley, the Fresno County Youth Council, Madera County Youth Council, San Joaquin County Education Development Department, and the Tulare Youth Council also received the award.

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**