

Superior Court of California County of Santa Clara

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Young Women's Power Lunch: November 2019

*The Superior Court hosts its second mentorship event of 2019
to promote and empower young women in Santa Clara County*

SAN JOSÉ, California (November 21, 2019): The Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara hosted 45 female middle and high school students at the Superior Court on Friday, November 8, 2019 for a Power Lunch event. The Power Lunch model aims to inspire youth to make positive choices and engage in pro-social behavior.

After the resounding success of the Court's pilot event in April of 2019, the Court's Community Outreach Committee made the decision to host a second Power Lunch event in 2019. Focusing on young women and the issues they face, this event included small group discussions with judges, attorneys, community leaders, and elected officials to hear one-on-one about their journey and to discuss ways for these youth to achieve their dreams.

Chair of the Community Outreach Committee Judge Julia Alloggiamento stated, "All women, even the most successful, have faced their own challenges and struggles. We wanted to encourage this new generation to continue to break down barriers and move toward success with two basic important concepts – believing in themselves and supporting each other."

Guest speakers Santa Clara County Supervisor Susan Ellenberg and Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice Commissioner Lissa Thiele provided the students with genuine insight into their own lives, struggles, and successes. In between speakers, the students met in smaller groups where successful professional female role models offered their own insights and mentorship to the young women attending.

"Being in the room with these students was so powerful. Our youth are our leaders *now*. Events like the Power Lunch offer our youth concrete examples of what their dreams could look like and participants like myself the opportunity to share our experiences and engage in meaningful dialogue. Our future is bright!" Said Supervisor Susan Ellenberg.

This event could not have been possible without the additional efforts and resources provided by the Superior Court Community Outreach Committee, the Santa Clara County Office of Women's Policy, the Santa Clara County District Attorney and Public Defender Office, Santa Clara County Probation Department, the City of San Jose, the YWCA Silicon Valley, the Alum Rock Unified School District, the East Side Union High School District, the San Jose Unified School District, Downtown College Preparatory, Opportunity Youth Academy, and all of the Santa Clara County legislators, educators, attorneys, and judges who donated their time to this event.

MORE



Santa Clara County Supervisor Susan Ellenberg



Santa Clara County Juvenile Justice Commissioner Lissa Thiele



Hon. Nahal Irvani-Sani shares her path



Hon. Andrea E. Flint and students



Hon. Shawna M. Schwarz greeting students



Supervisor Susan Ellenberg