



Potrero Family Resource Center
 Economic Opportunity Council of San Francisco
 San Francisco's anti-poverty agency since 1964
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**THERE'S A NEW THRILL ON THE HILL
 POTRERO PROGRESS**

SAN FRANCISCO, AUG. 8, 2010--Nine teen public health investigators with Potrero Progress will face a panel of medical researcher Dr. Kirsten Bibbins-Domingo, geoscientist Dr. Lisa White and technology executive Jacqueline Anderson as they near the end of an eight-week unit **"From Salt to San Francisco General"** at the Downtown Campus of San Francisco State University Monday morning.

The southeast San Francisco youth have a goal of completing a mobile application on salt intake in diets, mirroring a national application competition by the Dept. of Agriculture. Potrero Progress is a pilot initiative to demonstrate how to engage underrepresented minority youth in biotechnology careers, presented this summer by the Potrero Family Resource Center of the Economic Opportunity Council of San Francisco.

Last Thursday, they received guidance from Tim Van Loan, director of sales of Twilio, on how to design the front end interface of their public health outreach effort. To reach this stage, each investigator ranging in age from 14 to 20 met with top scientists and medical doctors to learn the chemistry, geology and health impacts of salt.

One enthusiastic supporter has been Dr. Alan Trounson, president of the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine, who visited the Potrero Family Resource Center last Saturday with researcher Lydia Tekie to view student presentations along with their parents and neighbors. CIRM also hosted the youth for a visit on July 15 and at the International Society of Stem Cell Researchers conference on June 15.

Marti Paschal, director of administrative operations for San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center, also arranged a three hour visit with Dr. Bibbins-Domingo, and hospital chief of staff Dr. Todd May, adult medicine chief Dr. Alice Chen and radiology chief Dr. Mark Wilson.

Dr. White, associate dean of engineering and science at S.F. State, gave them a presentation on the geology of salt immediately before a field trip to the Don Edwards National Wildlife Preserve's salt ponds.

The Economic Opportunity Council is seeking additional research and business advocates to continue the important work of expanding careers for San Francisco's underrepresented groups in high-paying biotechnology jobs. Video of the activities is available at potreroprogress.wordpress.com.

EOC is holding a graduation ceremony for Potrero Progress and three other summer enrichment programs on Friday, Aug. 13 at 6 p.m. in the African-American Art and Culture Complex. Each of those initiatives was funded by the Community Service Block Grant of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

ADVISORY

Potrero Progress investigator panel presentations will take place in room 667 of the San Francisco State University Downtown Campus, 835 Market St. beginning at 10 a.m.



Potrero Progress investigators view stem cell art at CIRM headquarters on King St.



S.F. General Radiology chief Dr. Mark Wilson demonstrates a CT-scanner



Ocular stem cell researcher Lydia Tekie and Dr. Alan Trounson visit Biotech Brunch at Potrero Family Resource Center.