



## OUTSTANDING PARTNER *County of Riverside*

Partnerships are critical to public higher education and often involve more than the classroom and academic programs.

One of the strongest partnerships at Riverside Community College District comes through the RCCD Foundation and centers on the County of Riverside.

RCCD values its ongoing County partnerships, which have been in place for many years and include such diverse undertakings as Passport to College, the Ben Clark Public Safety Training Center, and most recently, the Riverside Aquatics Complex. The partnerships also have impacts on a smaller scale. An example is outfitting the well-regarded Moreno Valley Gospel Choir with new choir robes, and the establishment of the John Coudures Health Sciences Endowed Scholarship.

One constant through the years has been that the County of Riverside's support for RCCD colleges has been directed toward programs that improve student access to college and student success. Many times this support benefits students at a young age. The Riverside Aquatics Complex and Passport to College affected elementary and middle schoolers.

In selecting the County of Riverside as Outstanding Partner for 2016, the RCCD Foundation cited the County's emphasis on broadening educational opportunities for all residents and its willingness to work across all sectors to ensure that local higher education institutions are able to respond to community needs.

"The County of Riverside is a true partner and understands that educational attainment is critical to the economic development and future of our region," said RCCD Foundation Director Amy Cardullo.

In a continuation of the RCCD/County of Riverside partnership, Supervisors John Tavaglione (2nd District) and Marion Ashley (5th District) are serving as honorary co-chairs of the Invest in Excellence Campaign underway through the RCCD Foundation.

