

## SOLEDAD ADULT SCHOOL PARTNERS WITH CENTER FOR EMPLOYMENT TRAINING



On Monday, November 19, 2007, the Center for Employment Training in Soledad held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of the Soledad Life Academy, a collaboration among The Noel Foundation, the City of Soledad, Soledad Adult School and the Monterey Institute for International Studies (MIIS). These partnerships have been created to assist CET in serving those most underserved in our community. As Jacob Ruelas, CET Director in Soledad, stated at the ceremony, "I can remember when fruit stands were the only buildings on the current CET site. Look how Soledad is growing. There's a need here because we have a lot of women who don't speak English and need jobs."

The partnerships will allow CET to expand services beyond their vocational training focus. For example, Soledad Adult School will be offering free GED and ESL classes at the CET Center from Monday through Thursday from 10 am-12 noon, 3:30-5:30 pm and 6:00-8:00 pm. Through its partnership with the Noel Foundation, CET will provide free transportation for adults from labor camps to classes, and the Monterey Institute of International Studies will provide college students to write grants, do research studies and assist as tutors, in addition to providing opportunities for adults to visit MIIS for a first-hand view of higher education. CET also provides vocational training in construction, medical assisting/billing and office occupations and is located at 930 Los Coches Drive, Suite 103, in Soledad.