

MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Community Health & Clinics

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Mark Starr, D.V.M., M.P.V.M., Director of Community Health, Clinics, and Animal Services

DATE: November 17, 2009

SUBJECT: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Drug Free Communities Support Program Grant

ACTION REQUESTED:

The Board is requested to approve the following actions:

- a. Approve the grant award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Drug Free Communities (DFC) Support Program, for coordination of the Coalition for Placer Youth in the amount of \$625,000 from September 30, 2009 through September 28, 2014.
- b. Authorize the Director of Health & Human Services to sign any subsequent amendments regarding the Drug Free Communities Support Program.

No County General Funds are included in this action.

BACKGROUND:

In 2007, with guidance and technical assistance from the Substance Abuse and Prevention Program (SAP) of the Community Health Division, a series of Community Town Hall Forums addressing methamphetamine use in Placer County were held throughout the Western Slope of Placer County. These successful forums led to a desire among participants to address broader substance abuse issues affecting Placer County youth, thus creating the Coalition for Placer Youth. The Coalition is currently comprised of leaders from law enforcement, school districts, the local community, business owners, multicultural agencies, local government, and youth. In an effort to continue their formal mission to reduce substance abuse among youth by promoting healthy community norms and behavior and advocating for policies and practices through community collaboration and partnership, the Coalition, partnering with the SAP Program, applied for and was awarded a grant from the Federal SAMHSA Drug Free Communities (DFC). The Coalition is one of 161 community organizations selected out of 417 applicants from across the nation.

As required by the grant, the Coalition will reach out to the community to be active participants in assessing youth substance use and root causes of use, as well as planning, implementing, evaluating, and sustaining effective prevention strategies and partnerships. The grant focuses on reducing youth alcohol use and prescription and over-the-counter-drug misuse by implementing strategies that change those messages and settings in our community that directly or indirectly make use accessible and appealing. The Placer County Youth Commission will partner with the Coalition to advise on youth substance abuse trends, youth culture, teen issues and challenges, as well as work to engage community youth themselves in prevention efforts. The Placer County Latino Leadership Council, also identified in the grant, will be a key partner to assist the Coalition in addressing Latino substance abuse issues with culturally competent methods.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total award amount is \$625,000 over five years, including \$125,000 for FY 2009-10, which will be included in the Department's planned mid-year budget revision. For FY 2009-10, up to \$96,830 will support local community groups in the areas of outreach, program coordination, and program evaluation. In addition, up to \$28,170 will support travel, training, supplies, and overhead and fiscal administration costs for SAP Program staff. No County General Funds are required.

This grant is on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

