

Vision Coalition of El Dorado Hills

A Community Action coalition of
Sierra Health Foundation's REACH youth program



Our Vision for Youth

We formed the Vision Coalition of El Dorado Hills in 2004, and we now have more than 100 individuals, agencies and organizations representing 12 sectors of the community.

Our vision is for all youth of El Dorado Hills to:

- have a successful, safe and healthy transition from adolescence to adulthood
- be fully prepared with attitude, skills, knowledge and experience to achieve their highest potential
- have ample opportunities for participation and decision making
- be safe and free from drugs, alcohol and tobacco

Our mission is to:

- expand opportunities for youth participation and decision making
- increase youth involvement in school and community activities
- coordinate the availability of community resources and services that support youth
- promote activities to keep youth safe, healthy and free from drugs, alcohol and tobacco

Our goals are to:

- increase youth development opportunities and supports
- increase and strengthen collaboration among representatives of the Vision Coalition of El Dorado Hills, and to coordinate services to better serve youth and their families
- prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth

Youth Action 2007-2008

Following is our first-year Youth Action Plan:

Better Serve Youth and Their Families

- >> To coordinate services and strengthen community partnerships, we will:
 - > create a community teen advisory committee
 - > create an executive advisory committee with teen membership
 - > create newsletters and news articles, and hold community events and activities with assistance and leadership by teens
 - > increase our coalition membership and increase joint projects with all sectors of the community

Increase Youth Development Supports and Opportunities

- >> To fully prepare young people for success, and to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth, we will:
 - > increase the number and quality of services for youth through partnership agreements, and by providing mini-grant funding for organizations to support policies and services for youth
 - > increase mentoring by peers and adults in schools and the community
 - > provide youth development training for youth and adults
 - > encourage a youth development focus for school curriculum and school activities
 - > produce youth media programs by and for youth
 - > support safe places and activities for teens, such as the CSD Teen Center

What We've Learned About El Dorado Hills Youth

In August 2006, coalition members began conducting a community assessment, with community meetings, focus groups, surveys and data collection.

After looking at all of the information collected, we identified these issues young people face, as well as what youth need to grow and thrive in El Dorado Hills. Of the youth and adult respondents who completed our Community Assessment survey:

- » **91 percent strongly supported the idea of youth development.**
- » **59 percent supported youth being actively involved in their own community, but 62 percent also felt that youth's opinions are not valued.**
- » **59 percent felt bullying was a problem in the community and 81 percent felt drugs were a problem.**
- » **74 percent felt there is not enough public transportation for youth.**
- » **91 percent felt that El Dorado Hills needs more safe places for youth.**
- » **68 percent felt there are not enough creative activities for youth after school or on weekends.**

Coalition Member Organizations

Big Brothers Big Sisters
Boys and Girls Club Western Slope
Buckeye School District
California Highway Patrol
California Motocross Park
CASA El Dorado
El Dorado Community Health Center
El Dorado Council of Alcoholism-Lifeskills
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
El Dorado County Department of Mental Health
El Dorado County Office of Education
El Dorado County Public Health Department
El Dorado County Sheriff's Office
El Dorado County Transportation Commission
El Dorado County Youth Commission
El Dorado Hills Chamber of Commerce
El Dorado Hills Community Services District
El Dorado Hills Community Vision, Inc.
El Dorado Hills Fire Department
El Dorado Hills/Folsom Families Anonymous
El Dorado Hills Rotary Club
El Dorado Musical Theatre
El Dorado Transit Authority
El Dorado Union High School District
El Dorado Women's Center
Family Connections
Focus on Education of El Dorado Hills
Food Bank of El Dorado County
GATES Recovery
Hands On El Dorado
Kristin Dominichelli, CPA
Mad Hatters
Mercy Housing
Mountain Democrat Newspaper
National Alliance for Mental Illness
New Morning Youth and Family Services
Norris Enterprises
Oak Ridge High School Key Club
Patricia Kriz Insurance
Re/Max Gold El Dorado Hills
Rescue School District
Royer Studios
Solomon's Porch
St. Stephens Lutheran Church
Suicide Prevention Education Action Resources
Teen Court/Friday Night Live
Wells Fargo Bank
Young Life/Wyld Life
Zeagler's College Connections

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**Get involved with the
Vision Coalition of El Dorado Hills!
Call (916) 643-4393
or visit www.edhvisioncoalition.org**



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