

South Sacramento Coalition for Future Leaders

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



Our Vision for Youth

The South Sacramento Coalition for Future Leaders (SSCFL) strives to create a community where youth are valued and are given the opportunity to grow, be safe and realize their full potential.

We envision a community where youth are able to not only create a positive vision for their future, but also to be actively engaged as leaders in their community. **We believe the entire community, working together, can have a major lasting impact on the youth in our community.**

As a broad-based neighborhood coalition, our mission is to affect the lives of young people by creating a network of assets and resources, promoting a positive image of youth, and garnering political power to influence broad, sustainable youth development policies.

The SSCFL is made up of youth, parents, educators, service providers, local government, businesses, churches and community leaders. We have worked together through the years, but in Spring 2006 we formally joined forces as a REACH Community Action Coalition.

The coalition is overseen and organized by the Sacramento Mutual Housing Association, which operates two affordable housing communities in the Lemon Hill neighborhood of South Sacramento.

The area of South Sacramento served by our coalition is roughly bounded by Highway 50 to the north, 47th Avenue and Elder Creek Road to the south, Highway 99 to the west and Power Inn Road to the east.

Youth Action 2007-2008

Following is our first-year Youth Action Plan:

Increase Youth Safety

>> We will increase the physical and emotional safety of youth in South Sacramento by establishing, enhancing and expanding proven peer mediation programs in area schools. Students will learn problem-solving negotiation and how to mediate schoolmates' conflicts. Through peaceful conflict resolution, we expect to see a reduction in youth-related violence and an increased sense of safety for youth in the community.

Support Youth Opportunities

>> We will increase the quantity and quality of and access to art, job and mentoring opportunities for our youth, so they will be able to develop and showcase their skills and talents.

Increase Youth Decision Making at Area Schools

>> Through our Youth Leadership Council, we will help young people become active leaders involved in improving their schools and community. Student leadership groups will identify changes they want at their schools, research solutions, work with school administration and develop action plans.

Support Policy Change

>> Through the development of Policy Action Teams, our youth will receive support for building relationships and working on youth policy issues with key community leaders, organizations and decision makers. This will result in more resources for positive youth opportunities.

What We've Learned About South Sacramento Youth

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

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 South Sacramento.

» **Youth and adults in the community report strong concerns about physical safety.**

» **Students express concerns about physical safety in their schools and neighborhoods.**

» **Youth recognize that their emotional needs may best be served through more extensive mental health resources.**

» **Youth find meaningful relationships with adults and peers outside the home in structured activities, especially as they grow older.**

» **Youth seek meaningful youth membership and leadership opportunities.**

» **Most youth list barriers hindering access to activities.**

» **Youth would like job assistance.**

» **Few youth currently participate in arts, either at school or in the community.**

South Sacramento Coalition for Future Leaders Member Organizations

Asian Pacific Community Counseling
Asian Resources
Avondale-Glen Elder Neighborhood Association
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Sacramento
California Gang Violence Prevention Services
Calvary Christian Church
C.B. Wire Elementary School
Earl Warren Elementary School
Elder Creek Elementary School
Fruitridge Manor Neighborhood Association
George Sim Community Center
Greater Sacramento Mentoring Coalition
Hiram Johnson High School
Hmong, Mien, Lao Gang Task Force
Hmong Women's Heritage Association
Joseph Bonenheim Elementary School
La Familia Counseling Center
Mercy Housing / Kennedy Estates
Navigators, Sacramento City Unified School District
PICO California
Power Inn Business and Transportation Association
Sacramento Area Congregations Together
Sacramento City Council
Sacramento County Dept of Neighborhood Services
Sacramento Mutual Housing Association
Sacramento Police Department
Sacramento State University
Southeast Asian Assistance Center
Stockton Boulevard Partnership
St. Peter's Church
Tahoe Colonial Collaborative
Tahoe Elementary School
United Iu Mien, Inc.
Will C. Wood Middle School

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**Get involved with the
South Sacramento Coalition for Future Leaders!
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