

Woodland Coalition for Youth

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

Youth Action 2007-2008

Our vision is that all youth have positive educational and social connections to be happy, healthy and successful adults.

The Woodland Coalition for Youth is committed to the following:

Involving Youth in Meaningful Relationships with Adults

>> We will strengthen and support youth leadership opportunities by creating a Youth Leadership Center in Woodland. We also will develop a professional mentoring program to connect youth with caring, responsible adults. In addition, by raising awareness of the importance of meaningful relationships between youth and adults, and strengthening the connection between families and community services, we will help families support youth.

Developing a Youth Policy Agenda

>> Members of our Youth Council will help to develop a youth policy agenda for Woodland. Youth then will promote the agenda to make community-wide changes to improve their quality of life.

Increasing Access to Existing Opportunities for All Youth

>> We will increase youth and adult awareness of existing youth activities and resources in Woodland. Youth will research and publicize resources, identify barriers to access, and pursue ways to break down those barriers. We also will expand youth development opportunities and conduct a public relations campaign, focusing on youth, our coalition's work and youth development principles.

Increasing Educational Support for All Youth

>> We will increase youth access to existing educational support opportunities. The Coalition will work with the Woodland Joint Unified School District and the Yolo County Office of Education to address identified barriers to access and augment existing resources.

The Community Action coalitions of El Dorado Hills, Galt, Meadowview, Rancho Cordova, South Sacramento, West Sacramento and Woodland are taking these steps to make long-term changes for youth:

Preparing For Change By

- > building awareness, knowledge, involvement and commitment among all community members

Making Community Change By

- > finding ways to help families, organizations and individuals support youth
- > including youth in planning and decision making
- > increasing the number of opportunities for youth
- > increasing the quality of developmental activities for youth
- > creating policies and realigning resources that support youth

Providing Youth What They Need to Succeed

- > nutrition, health and shelter
- > physical and emotional safety
- > supportive relationships with adults and peers
- > meaningful opportunities for leadership and community involvement
- > challenging and engaging activities to build skills

So That Youth Will

- > learn to be productive
- > learn to connect
- > learn to navigate

So Youth Become Adults Who

- > are economically self-sufficient
- > have healthy family and social relationships
- > are involved in community

To find out how you can support the **Woodland Coalition for Youth**, please contact Lamar Heystek at lheystek@yolofrc.org or call (530) 406-7221
