

TO: Youth Council

DATE: 02/11/04

FROM: Youth Council Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Merced County Children's Summit – "It is all about Kids"

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information Only

DISCUSSION: What is the Children's Summit? A Countywide event to create a Strategic Plan with goals and objectives for children ages 0-22 in 6 areas:

- 1. Capacity for affordable and high quality childcare**
- 2. Success in school (including school readiness)**
- 3. Safe and stable families (including family violence, substance abuse, economic self-sufficiency, child abuse prevention)**
- 4. Healthy children (including physical fitness, nutrition/obesity, health insurance)**
- 5. Systems capacity (including coordination/collaboration, less duplication of services, involvement of private sector)**
- 6. Youth preparedness (including job training, youth development, youth assets)**

Who are the participants? 250-300 people, a mixture of professionals and community/parents/teens – elected officials, schools, public agencies, community based member's organizations, health care providers, substance abuse providers, businesses, media, and faith-based organizations.

**When? April 30, 2004, Friday, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Adult Breakout Sessions
4:00 pm – 8:00 pm, Teen Breakout Sessions
8:00 pm – 10:00 pm, Teen Dance
May 1, 2004, Saturday, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm**

Where? Boys & Girls Club, Merced Site

Youth participation is a key to the Summit's success. Eighty to 100 youth are expected and will come from the following programs:

- Younger and Older youth in WIA programs**
- Youth in Independent Living (group homes)**
- ROP – youth in the childcare intern class**
- Youth members of Boys & Girls Club**
- Youth leadership groups**

Topics for the Teen Session

- 1. Transition at 18, including foster children**
- 2. Youth crime and violence, including gangs**
- 3. Teen pregnancy prevention, parenting and childcare**
- 4. Beyond high school—Voc ed, job training, access to higher education**
- 5. Relationship violence**
- 6. Coping skills for youth depression and stress**
- 7. Youth drug and alcohol use**
- 8. Youth development – positive focus on youth’s strengths and assets**
- 9. After school programs and activities**
- 10. All youth one system – what would it look like/give it a name?**

How can the Youth Council help?

- Volunteer to be a facilitator or scribe**
- Attend and participate**

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A