

TO: Youth Council

DATE: 04/14/04

FROM: Youth Council Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Youth Opportunity Program (YOP) Quarterly Report

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information Only

DISCUSSION: The Quarterly Report for the Youth Opportunity Program for January, February, and March 2004 is attached.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Letter, YOP Quarterly Report, January–March 2004

To: Dave Davis
Employment & Training Analyst, Department of Workforce Investment

From: Robin Davis
Career Educator, Youth Opportunity Program, Merced County Office of
Education

Re: Quarterly Report, Younger Youth Program
Prepared for the Merced County Youth Council

Date: April 2004 (Jan/Feb/Mar)

1. **Overall status of the program:** The program is exceeding performance standards. 89% of basic skills goals were attained, 80% of those exited obtained their diploma, and 74% achieved retention this month. Eighty-four new enrollments occurred in this quarter.

2. **Past quarter highlights:**

YOP participants are involved in varied community service projects.

This quarter, 73 YOP participants from Dos Palos, Los Banos, and Le Grand High Schools collected “pennies for patients” for children with leukemia. Hundreds of dollars were donated to the Fresno Leukemia Foundation.

YOP participants who are in ROP classes participated in Portfolio Day. Each student completed a Career Portfolio and participated in a mock job interview with a professional in the community who provided the student with constructive criticism. Participating students will be acknowledged at one of MCOE/ROP's Award of Excellence ceremonies - April 29th at Golden Valley High School Theater and May 4th at Buhach Colony High School Theater.

YOP participants from all the high schools were given an opportunity to attend a Career Industry Day, organized by ROP. This quarter, the two industries highlighted were Agriculture and Health. Professionals in the fields met with students to answer questions and provide information on the opportunities, prerequisites, and realities of each career path.

3. **Past quarter deficiencies:** none
4. **Past quarter recruiting/marketing efforts:** Opportunities for youth to apply for the program are provided in high school career centers or daily bulletins.
5. **Number enrolled:** 407 active / 1749 overall

6. **Number of hard/soft exits:** 1342 / 0

7. **Next quarter challenges:**

- In early April, the younger youth YOP office linked with the out-of-school youth EMPOWER program in Building K on the MCOE complex, 632 W. 13th Street. It will include a career center and computer lab to serve as a youth One Stop once the resources are in place.
- A team of mentors are developing new lesson plans to build into the Working Professional curriculum. They will include work readiness, leadership development, college/university preparedness, and addressing local social issues that the YOP in ACTION (steering committee) found pertinent.
- YOP participants will assist facilitators as scribes during the April 30th Friday night teen sessions of the Merced County Children's Summit. Mentors will serve as chaperones and transport youth from around the county to the event where 150 youth are expected to attend.

8. **Technical assistance needed:** none