

TO: Youth Council

DATE: 08/13/03

FROM: Youth Council Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Areas of High Concentration of WIA Eligible Youth

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information Only

DISCUSSION: Merced County has been identified as one of the State's top ten areas of high concentration of eligible youth. Merced ranks fifth, with only the City of San Bernadino, Los Angeles County, Tulare County, NORTEC (Butte, Del Norte, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Siskiyou, Tehama, & Trinity Counties) having higher youth concentrations.

The State Board, Employment Development Department, and Regional Advisors understand that there are limited financial resources available to support this effort, but they have designed a menu of services available to the Local Areas. Further they have pledged to:

- a. Work with the ten Local Workforce Investment Areas with the highest concentration of WIA eligible youth.**
- b. Undertake a needs assessment to determine what additional assistance can provide the greatest benefit to each area.**
- c. Develop a menu of services available to the local area.**
- d. Explore funding opportunities that could be available to the Local areas.**

The results of the needs assessment survey revealed the following:

Merced Priorities (Critical Issues for Youth)

- a. Shelter Services (runaway or other)**
- b. Basic Needs (food, clothing, utilities)**
- c. Medical/Health Care**
- d. Educational Support (supplemental to school)**
- e. Vocational Preparation**

On a sliding scale, how well do you believe your One-Stop is informed about community services to address these five youth needs?

ANSWER: 3 – Adequately

Please list the TOP THREE areas you believe your Centers deal best with:

- 1. Vocational Preparation**
- 2. Educational Support**
- 3. Transportation**

Please list the TOP THREE areas you believe are areas your program is least effectively able to deal with at this time for youth:

- a. Medical/Health Care**
- b. Substance Abuse**
- c. Hospitalization (Mental Health)**

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A