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NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: January 10, 2017

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Jill Blake**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving the use of Alcohol Education Program Funds to support the countywide implementation and provision of the Athlete Committed Program throughout Nevada County High Schools.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: Funds from the County's Alcohol Education Program Fund are to be used on primary prevention programs in the schools and community in fiscal years 2016/17 and 2017/18 in the amount of \$28,000. Funding was planned for in the Public Health Department's FY 2016/17 budget and there are no county general funds required in the Program.

BACKGROUND: Pursuant to Penal Code Section 1463.25, the moneys collected pursuant to Section 23645 of the Vehicle Code are deposited to the County Treasury in a special county Alcohol Abuse and Prevention Fund for exclusive allocation by the county Alcohol Program Administrator for the county's Alcohol Abuse Education and Prevention Program pursuant to Section 11802 of the Health and Safety Code (HSC). The money deposited into this fund is to be jointly administered by the administrator of the county's Alcohol and Other Drug Program and the Nevada County Office of Education subject to the approval of the Board of Supervisors and the county Office of Education. A letter of support for use of the funds from Nevada County Superintendent of Schools, Holly Hermansen, is attached.

Primary prevention programs developed and implemented under this section of the HSC are to emphasize cooperation in planning and program implementation of alcohol abuse education and prevention among schools and community alcohol and other drug abuse agencies. Coordination is to be demonstrated through an interagency agreement among county Office of Education, school districts, and the county Alcohol and Drug Program Administrator.

Nevada County's Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Program is funded via the Nevada County Behavioral Health Department and is implemented by the Nevada County Public Health

Department. Through an extensive needs assessment process, the AOD Program's *Strategic Plan for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention* identified underage drinking as its area of primary concern, and the work carried out by the AOD Program is intended to reduce the underage drinking through education and primary prevention efforts. In accordance with the strategic plan, the AOD Program, Nevada Joint Union School District, Tahoe Truckee School District, the Coalition for a Drug Free Nevada County and Tahoe Truckee Future Without Drug Dependence are continuing to support to support the Athlete Committed programs in western and eastern Nevada County.

Data shows that athletes are one of the highest at-risk groups for alcohol and substance abuse. Nevada Union and Bear River High School athletes report that 65% of the athletes in their school use alcohol or other drugs, and 14% report parents and guardians are willing to host parties that include alcohol or other drugs. The Athlete Committed Program is designed specifically for this student population but can also be implemented across other groups and clubs on campus.

Athlete Committed is a comprehensive, evidence-based prevention and intervention health program for student athletes, parents, coaches, and school staff. The program offers insight, education and strategies around issues such as alcohol and drug abuse, hazing, obesity and sportsmanship. It also emphasizes the benefits of sleep and nutrition, and demonstrates the negative effects of alcohol and drugs on training; athletic and academic performance (e.g., one night of drinking can erase two weeks of athletic training.)

Key program components include; comprehensive training for all coaches and athletic directors; principals on creating a program of excellence; an Athletic Code that promotes a character-based athletic program and has clear consequences for code infractions; mandatory parent/guardian meetings where parents/guardians and athletes are trained on how to ensure the best athletic performance; and student leadership - athletes are identified to promote the program model, participate in training their peers and supporting them on and off the field. The initial year of implementation of Athlete Committed was a success and the continued investment of Alcohol Education Program Funds could support continued implementation and ensure the existence of robust Athlete Committed programs in high schools in Grass Valley and Truckee.

The recommendation before you today proposes utilizing Alcohol Education Program moneys to support the countywide implementation of Athlete Committed from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018 in an amount not to exceed \$28,000. Proposed costs to be covered include participation in the Athlete Committed Leadership training in Chico, California, for students, coaches and mentors (costs include transportation); printing of Coaches Handbooks and Parent Tool Kits; and additional trainings and supports that are aligned with the *Strategic Plan for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention* and support alcohol abuse education and prevention. Contract/s for services will follow approval of this resolution.

The potential impacts of this program are significant: reduced alcohol and other drug use, improved student health, a positive lasting shift in school culture and spirit, and greater connections between students, parents, and adult mentors and staff. With the investment of Alcohol Education Program Funds, Athlete Committed may create lasting positive change for our high-school aged youth.

Item Initiated and Approved by: Jill Blake, MPA, Public Health Director