

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

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>: 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 2018/19 and 2019/20 in the amount of \$30,000. Funding was planned for in the Public Health Department's FY 2018/19 budget and there are no County general funds required in the Program.

BACKGROUND: Pursuant to Penal Code Section 1463.25, the monies 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. A letter of support for use of the funds from Nevada County Superintendent of Schools, Scott W. Lay, 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. The AOD Program is currently revising its five-year *Strategic Plan for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention* through an extensive planning and needs assessment process. Like the previous strategic plan, it will likely identify underage drinking as an 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. Alcohol remains the highest used substance for high school students in Western Nevada County and the second most used substance by Eastern Nevada County high school students. Half of 11th graders in our high schools report using alcohol in the last month; three-quarters of students in non-traditional or alternative high schools report using alcohol in that same period.

In accordance with the implementation of the new strategic plan, the AOD Program will work with key partners to focus on the reduction of alcohol use by youth in our communities. These funds will support that work. For example, the AOD program will continue to partner with Nevada Joint Union School District, Tahoe Truckee School District, the Coalition for a Drug Free Nevada County and Tahoe Truckee Future Without Drug Dependence to support to support the Athlete Committed programs in western and eastern Nevada County, as well as other initiatives focused on the reduction of alcohol use by high school students. Athlete Committed is a comprehensive, evidence-based prevention and intervention health program for student athletes, parents, coaches, and school staff that responds to research that tells us that athletes are one of the highest at-risk groups for alcohol and substance abuse. We will also explore new partnerships with youth-serving organizations to research and support programs that address the reduction of youth alcohol use, in accordance with the AOD strategic plan.

The recommendation before you today proposes using Alcohol Education Program monies to support countywide efforts to address alcohol use in our high schools, including supporting the Athlete Committed programs, from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000. Proposed costs to be covered include trainings and supports that are aligned with the *Strategic Plan for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention* and to support alcohol abuse education and prevention, such as funding the participation of students and school staff in the Athlete Committed Leadership training in Chico, California, for students, coaches and mentors (costs include transportation). Contract/s for services will follow approval of this resolution.

With the investment of Alcohol Education Program Funds, these funds may create lasting positive change for our high-school aged youth.

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