

Step Up Youth Activities Grant Program
2012 Grant Awardees

District 1, Supervisor Ishida

Courage to Change-\$10,000

“Teen Connect” will engage young men from its gang enforcement treatment agency (Courage to Change) who have received extensive mentoring training to act as positive role models to At Risk/High Risk Youth.

Focus will be on school attendance, increased academic performance, self management skills, i.e. self-control, tolerance and personal accountability. Mentees will be assisted with classroom preparedness, appropriate life skills, including short and long term goal setting.

As a result of the strength and success of the Mentoring program last year, they were able to add new components this year such as, the California Cadet Corp. which was implemented at the middle school. The Cadet program promotes civic duty, leadership, physical fitness and pride in one’s country. In addition to the Cadet program, Teen Connect has also devoted four additional Peer Mentors and one staff member to the Elementary School to provide Mentor Services.

El Quinto Summer Arts Program-\$5,000

Will serve between 100 and 150 kids ages 3-18 during an 8-week period during the summer of 2012. The Summer Arts Program provides 2 hours of dance instruction and 2 hours of arts and crafts instruction each week, for a total of 32 hours (per community, per child). The program is completely free, and is offered to children who cannot otherwise afford to participate in a summer enrichment program. The program concludes with an art exhibit and dance performance, where the youth showcase their art work and dances learned. It is a true celebration of art, culture and community.

Step Up Youth Activities Grant Program
2012 Grant Awardees

District 2, Pete Vander Poel

Tulare Athletic Boxing Club-\$10,000

TAC will serve approximately 300 youth from their service area in boxing and soccer activities, and will target high school-age youths. The specific goal for use of any grant funds awarded is to help offset costs for transporting teens in both soccer and boxing programs to sanctioned tournaments and to scheduled visitations to institutions of higher learning (e.g., California State Universities, Community Colleges, University of California campuses). It is the intention to increase the youths' knowledge and understanding of what is available to them after high school while engaging them in organized, safe physical activities. These activities and educational experiences will enhance the mission of TAC in helping steer at-risk youth away from gang affiliation and drug and alcohol use.

Greater Tulare Recreation Foundation (GREAT)-\$5,000

The grant will fund materials and field trips for two 2-week sessions of the G.R.E.A.T Super Program reaching a total of 72 Tulare youth—60 in grades 4-5-6, plus 12 high school volunteers. This year they have reduced the number of youth involved in order to be able to spend more time with each individual student, plus take them on what will be a life-changing field trip to the Museum, of Tolerance in Los Angeles for the "Steps to Tolerance" program specifically geared to 4-5-6 grade students. Officers use hands-on activities, group interaction, sports breaks, role-play, a community service project, positive reinforcements, and the final field trip to keep students' interest high.

Tulare County Police Assistance League (PAL)-\$5,000

The program will build character, leadership, and other skills in Pixley youth. The program targets 35 students at John Muir Charter School in which they would be given the opportunity to experience a "Ropes" course and receive a campus tour of Fresno State, would help purchase vocational computer software to help with post graduation employment and training opportunities, and other equipment to enhance the schools environment and promote attendance.

Step Up Youth Activities Grant Program
2012 Grant Awardees

District 3, Supervisor Cox

Proteus Neighborhood Youth Counselor Program-\$10,000

Will be implementing a Streetwise Partners recreational sports program for youth at-risk of joining a gang in Visalia. The program is designed to prevent/intervene in the life of youth socially and economically predisposed to joining a gang by exposing these youth to recreational activities that are often times unavailable. Streetwise will also offer mentorships for youth in the form of coaching to offer guidance, referrals, and assistance for overcoming barriers and to be a positive role model for youth. Mentoring will be delivered by the Neighborhood Youth Counselors (NYC) who will coach youth, coordinate recreational sports activities, and act as positive role models. It is expected 300 youth will be served during the program term.

Visalia Police Assistance League (PAL)-\$10,000

Recruits youths between the ages of 14-18 who are at risk of becoming involved in gangs, drugs and/or criminal activity. Wants to expand the age group to include children between the ages of 11 and 13 who will be mentored by previous year's Youth Leadership students. Between 60 and 70 children will be mentored between October 2011 and December 2012. Youth Mentors will share what they have learned about self-esteem, team work, and respecting others. The current year's Youth Leadership Group and Youth Mentor/Mentee Group will join in for local field trips where they will learn from each other and bond with local law enforcement volunteers

Step Up Youth Activities Grant Program
2012 Grant Awardees

District 4, Supervisor Worthley

AYSO-\$5,000

Will provide full playerships (scholarships) to children ages 4 through 19 who live in the Goshen area. It will fund 133 children

Big Brothers Big Sisters-\$5,000

Youth from three Cutler-Orosi elementary schools will be matched with high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors from Orosi High School. They will meet in a one to one setting once a week after school. High school mentors are trained in basic mentoring and safety, provided with sports and games to do together to develop the relationship with their "Little Brother" or "Little Sister", and provided one to one coaching from the Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) Program Manager.

Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America-\$5,000

Will be implementing a Boy Scouting STEM program for 100 at-risk youth by partnering with community organizations. Key elements include: applying the scientific method as the core process to analyzing and overcoming obstacles encountered in the program, applied mathematics as you work to solve real life challenges which may be robotics, gaining an introductory understanding of the principles of mechanical and structural engineering, and learning about relevant applications of technology in both current and future fields.

YESS Sports Program-\$5,000

Funds requested will support the construction for two soccer goals, construction of a new softball field backstop, and materials associated with the sports program (balls, bats, gloves, helmets, etc.) at Stone Corral Elementary School. Two subcontracted program support staff will be responsible for recruiting youth participants, coaches and volunteers.

Step Up Youth Activities Grant Program
2012 Grant Awardees

District 5, Supervisor Ennis

Porterville Education Foundation-\$10,000

Will be targeting at risk high school students who either have gang active family members or have been involved in gang activity but are trying to change their lives. Second task is to pair the older students as older mentors to identified younger students (5-8 grade). High school students will receive training on how to work with younger students. Part of the training will include a trip to the Museum of Tolerance. Students will then create a pictorial/video production with activities done at the elementary and middle schools to help children see what hate can do.

Wild Places-\$10,000

Will use the monies to address graffiti removal on the Tule river by hiring 12-15 students from district 5. These students will attend three Rio Tule River stewardship events and participate in a multi-day backcountry experience Immersed in the Wild trip. On the last event in September 2012, students will take part in a Mural Project and Exhibition. Additionally, funding will be used to teach 200 middle school students over three single-day events on the North Fork Tule in March, April and May.