
SNIPPET

Enrolling Out-of-School Youth

Youth Council: Merced County Youth Council

Element: Youth Development and Support

Function: Coordinating Youth Services, Measuring Quality and Impact of Local Efforts

Subject: Serving Special Populations

The Challenge: Merced County was having trouble finding out-of-school youth. Their first youth service provider was unable to enroll enough youth to satisfy the requirements of their contract. Furthermore, the Youth Council members realized that not one of the 150 youth they had enrolled lived in County Housing Authority residences. They discovered that there was a group of youth that were not being served.

The Practice and Evidence: The Youth Council decided to develop a collaborative between out-of-school youth programs and the County Housing Authority. A job specialist from a service provider was placed in the Housing Authority office (rent free), and the records of this Housing office were opened to the provider to highlight prospective youth.

As a result, over 20 youth from the Housing Authority were enrolled in the out-of-school program in Merced County, and the service provider served more youth than the original contract called for. The only additional cost was the salary of one job specialist.

The Details: Youth Council members from the Housing Authority agreed to the idea after the Youth Council Staff presented it. The actual plan became a funded amendment to the older youth contract. The Youth Council conceived the idea, negotiated a contract amendment to implement the program, and monitored the program progress.

Where to Go for More Information

Merced County Youth Council

Although this program is no longer operational, information is still available. Please contact:

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