



Woodland-based Anti-Tobacco Youth Coalition expands to Esparto

Created: 02/03/2009 11:51:49 AM PST



Esparto Middle School and High School students sign in at the RISE Office. An anti-tobacco youth group has expanded to Esparto. (Courtesy)

In a continued effort to increase youth awareness about the dangers of tobacco use and the tobacco industry's youth marketing tactics, the Yolo County Anti-Tobacco Youth Coalition has expanded their youth coalition based in Woodland, to Esparto.

The first meeting of the Esparto YUFA STAR coalition took place Monday, Jan. 26, at the RISE Office near the Supermarket. Some 35 Esparto Middle School and High School students attended the event.

Youth participants had the opportunity to learn about the youth coalition and how tobacco affects your body while playing a fun interactive Jeopardy game.

"This all started when YUFA STAR 3-year members,

Kate and Rebecca Markel, who attend Esparto High School and the Woodland YUFA STAR invited their EHS classmates to a Woodland YUFA STAR meeting," reported Jessica Estrada, youth outreach coordinator. "The EHS students were not able to attend because of the distance, and the idea to bring the youth coalition to them was born."

Yolo County Health Department staff applied for a \$10,000 REACH Program Improvement grant from the Sierra Health Foundation in the summer of 2008 and was approved. The grant helps cover transportation costs and new youth trainings involved with the expansion.


The Esparto youth coalition will meet every minimum day Monday in Esparto during the school year: February 23rd, March 9th, March 23rd, April 20th, April 27th, May 4th and May 18th at 1:00pm at the RISE Office on 17313 Fremont St.

Each meeting will feature a 30-minute training on varying public health and tobacco education topics, a demonstration, a new media project, snacks, and a fun icebreaker game.

The group was founded in Woodland in 2001 using federal tobacco settlement money. Since its creation, the youth coalition has been involved in many community-changing activities in Woodland, such as advocating for the Smoke-Free Yolo County Fair and Woodland's 20-Foot No Smoking Policy, organizing annual "Strike Out the Hype" Bowling Nights, and tabling at various local events with their interactive trailer.

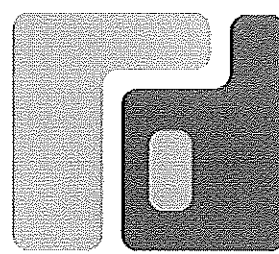
YUFA STAR then expanded to West Sacramento in 2007 and has now expanded to Esparto in 2009 with the help of the REACH grant.

Advertisement



A bright idea in online advertising.

PrinterStitial[®] ads by Format Dynamics.



FormatDynamics[®]

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics[®]