

**County of Santa Clara**

Office of the Board of Supervisors

County Government Center, East Wing  
70 West Hedding Street, 10th Floor  
San Jose, California 95110  
(408) 299-2443  
FAX 298-6637 TDD 993-8272

FY 2003 Budget Inventory  
Item #9

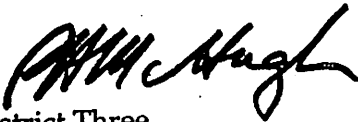


Pete McHugh  
Supervisor, Third District

**MEMORANDUM**

May 22, 2002

TO: Health and Hospital Committee

FROM: Pete McHugh   
Supervisor, District Three

SUBJECT: FY 2002-2003 Budget Augmentation for the Youth Task Force

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Allocate \$66,500 to maintain the County's Youth Task Force at its current level of activity and support.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

This proposal will cost the General Fund \$66,500 in one time funds.

**BACKGROUND AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

In June 1998, the Board of Supervisors established the Youth Task Force under the sponsorship of the Human Relations Commission. The Task Force provides young people, ages 14-21, an opportunity to become involved in public service, as well as serve

as an advisory board to the Board of Supervisors on youth policy issues. Currently, it consists of 18 members, who reside in Cupertino, Los Altos, Morgan Hill, San Jose and Saratoga. They work to encourage youth community involvement along a broad spectrum of ethnic, socio-economic, linguistic, and educational backgrounds. They have identified violence prevention, juvenile justice and reducing teen pregnancy as their primary areas of focus.

For FY02, the County's Violence Prevention Program funded the Task Force's efforts. The Task Force has submitted this proposal for FY03 funding and based on an initial ranking by the Violence Prevention Program's screening committee, this proposal will not be funded. Since the Board may not make final Violence Prevention Program funding decisions for FY03 until September, the Board's Budget Modification process makes it necessary to forward this proposal to the Health and Hospital Committee to keep open the possibility of other County funding.

#### A. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

The Youth Task Force proposal will allocate the requested \$66,500 as follows:

▪ Youth Leadership Training	\$ 2,500
▪ Mini-Grant Program	\$ 6,000
▪ Task Force Coordinator	\$58,000

##### 1. Youth Leadership Training

The Task Force plans to develop leadership training for its members in media, government, community organizing, conflict resolution, grant writing, and peer education. By receiving this training, the Task Force will serve the youth of Santa Clara County as peer educators and youth mediators on violence prevention. Leadership training sessions will also increase the level of awareness of the Youth Task Force participants and provide tools to deal with issues such as violence, prejudice, and hate motivated actions.

##### 2. Mini-Grant Program

Through the allocation of mini-grants, the Youth Task Force attempts to identify funds to organizations that will have the greatest impact in the areas of violence prevention, reducing teen pregnancy, and youth mentoring. Furthermore, the Task Force plans to allocate these funds to achieve geographic distribution throughout the County. The mini-grant process allows both Task Force members and community youth to become familiar with general grant procedures. Ultimately, the Task Force hopes that these funds will enable community youth groups to implement violence prevention strategies and other projects that will have a positive impact on the community and Santa Clara County.

**3. Task Force Coordinator**

The Youth Task Force needs a full time Coordinator to work on community outreach and provide the day-to-day support for the Task Force's activities. The Task Force Coordinator also serves as a point of contact for Task Force members and the community. The County recently filled this position with a person who has extensive experience working with diverse communities and is bi-lingual. Additional duties of the Coordinator include ongoing communication with Network for a Hate Free Community to enhance collaboration between the two groups and promote the importance of cultural diversity and cultural competency. Without a full time Coordinator, the activities and impact of the Youth Task Force would be extremely limited.

**B. CUSTOMER AND STAKEHOLDER BENEFICIARIES**

Youth are the future of our County, state, and nation. The outcomes of tomorrow will depend upon the young men and women of today. Investing in developing culturally competent individuals that are well versed in alternatives to violence enhances the interests of all Santa Clara County residents. The Youth Task Force strives to reach out to all youth, crossing all cultural, ethnic, linguistic, and geographic lines.

**C. PROGRAM GOALS AND BOARD BUDGET PRIORITIES SUPPORTED**

Supporting this proposal is consistent with the Board's priority to "continue to direct funding towards prevention and early intervention strategies that have demonstrated effectiveness and reduce long-term costs to the County." The Youth Task Force designed this proposal to provide education and training to its members and youth within the County. The Task Force plans to continue to address areas of violence prevention, as well as reward successful youth programs that are seeking to further reduce violence and promote peaceful mediation.