

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Patrick S. Blacklock
County Administrator

Beth Gabor Manager of Operations & Strategy 625 Court Street, Room 202 • Woodland, CA 95695 (530) 666-8042 • FAX (530) 668-4029 www.yolocounty.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 13, 2016

Contact: Beth Gabor, Public Information Officer (530) 666-8042 [w] • (530) 219-8464 [c]

Pioneer High School Friday Night Live Preventing Underage Drinking

(Woodland, CA) - The Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency's Friday Night Live (FNL) Program has been awarded a \$5,000 grant to support youth leaders in implementing campaigns meant to directly combat underage drinking in their communities.

The grant is provided through the California Friday Night Live Partnership (CFNLP), with funding from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to give youth opportunities to lead local projects that will be developed by youth and may include school activities, outreach to parents and social norms campaigns to decrease underage drinking among youth peers. They will actively engage their peers, family members and community members in reducing underage drinking and the plethora of issues that result from the behavior.

As a prerequisite for obtaining the funds, Pioneer High School FNL members participated in Roadwatch—an annual observational survey administered by the CFNLP with funding from the Allstate Foundation. For one hour on October 13, 2015, the youth observed 81 incidents of distracted driving near Pioneer High School, ranging from talking and texting on cellphones to eating, drinking and personal grooming. Pioneer High School FNL was one of 119 sites throughout the state that observed a total of 12,569 distracted driving offenses on that day.

"Youth respond to other youth much better than adult-driven and delivered messages," said Dr. Jim Kooler, CFNLP administrator. "By supporting them with the skills and opportunities to make positive changes in their communities, we will see results that matter."

For more information about the program, contact Yolo County FNL Coordinator Angela Angel at (530) 666-8711 or angela.angel@yolocounty.org.

###