

2017 LEADERS IN LIFE YOUTH CONFERENCE

General Information

Conference Date/Time: Thursday, March 9, 2017 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Venue: Rabobank Convention Center, 1001 Truxtun Avenue, Bakersfield 93301

Target Audience: High school, middle school, and 6th through 8th grade students who attend K-8 schools

- Your school/agency is invited to send up to the maximum number of students you indicated on your Intent to Participate form.
- Each school/agency is also required to obtain permission slips for each student and keep those slips on file.
- The Youth Conference Planning Committee encourages you to fill your available slots with students from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds and academic achievement levels who would not ordinarily experience a conference of this nature, (ASB or campus club officers are only part of the target audience for this conference).
- Students participating on the conference planning committee need not be included in your registration.

Purpose: The day is planned by youth for youth with the assistance of adult advisors. Students in attendance will have the opportunity to discuss and evaluate issues they face daily, to learn more about community resources, and to plan for their future in a positive environment.

Format: General conference format - Keynote and Guest Speakers, breakout sessions and vendor fair

Media: State law permits media access to student events. The news media may elect to cover all or part of this event with photos, video, or text, which identifies and/or quotes the student. News coverage may appear in newspapers, newsletters, on television, radio, or other publicly circulated communications. This coverage assists in highlighting many wonderful student-led projects in our county and across the region.

Logistics

Registration Fee: \$20 per person (students, advisors, and chaperones)

- Includes lunch, materials and conference t-shirt
- If your Intent to Participate form was not received by February 6, 2017 your registration fees will be \$25 - \$30 per person as indicated on that form.

T-shirts: Conference theme t-shirt with the Leaders in Life logo will be issued to each person registered

- School/Agency contact will be notified when the shirts are available and asked to make arrangements to pick them up.
- Participating students, advisors, and chaperones are **required** to wear the t-shirt in order to enter the conference. Students not wearing the conference t-shirt will not be allowed to participate.

Chaperones:

- The required student to adult ratio is 10:1 and you are responsible for providing enough advisors/chaperones for your student attendees.
- School/agency employees as well as parents may serve as advisors or chaperones and are encouraged to help stimulate learning through discussion and debriefing of each segment of the conference.
- Advisors/chaperones are required to stay with the students throughout the entire day. Schools or agencies in violation of this request may be asked to leave the conference.

Registration:

- Enclosed, you will find a conference checklist, agenda, breakout session workshop topic list, registration form, and a letter to advisors/chaperones.
- **Please read everything carefully and fill registration form out completely and return right away.**
- Payments in the form of check, cash, money order, or purchase orders need to be received, by our office, prior to the conference.

2017 LEADERS IN LIFE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Conference Checklist

- Read all enclosed information **carefully**.
 - Select no more than the maximum number of students you indicated on your Intent to Participate form and place them into groups of 10 with at least one adult chaperone/advisor per group.
- The advisors/chaperones who will accompany the students to the conference should review the following with the selected students:
 - breakout session workshop topics and agenda
 - permission slips
 - rules and requirements including group sizes, t-shirts, lunch wrist bands, etc.
- Each school or agency is encouraged to develop a plan of action to implement at their own school or organization involving ideas and lessons learned throughout the day.
- E-mail or FAX the completed **Registration Form** by: **Friday, March 3, 2017**
- Make a copy of the registration form for your records and bring it with you to the conference.
- Registration Fee Checks & Purchase Orders payable to:
Kern County Superintendent of Schools (or KCSOS)
- Mail payment to:
Attn: Sheri McWilliams
Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office
1300 17th Street, 5th Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301-4533
- If you do not receive an e-mailed or faxed confirmation of your registration within three business days of returning the registration form, contact Sheri McWilliams at (661) 636-4739.
- Arrange for the students and their advisors/chaperones to be at the Rabobank Convention Center by **8:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 9, 2017.**
- For any special needs (i.e., hearing, vision, seating, food, etc.), please contact Jeff Coomber at the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office as soon as possible at (661) 852-5674, or email jecoomber@kern.org
- If **transportation costs** are a barrier for your group to attend, please contact Daryl Thiesen at the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office as soon as possible at (661) 852-5649 or cell at (661) 205-2712, or email dathiesen@kern.org

2017 LEADERS IN LIFE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Important Information for Advisors and/or Chaperones

We greatly appreciate your support for young people and for our conference for youth planned by youth. It is truly a unique event, one of the largest youth conferences planned by teens in the entire United States. The Youth Planning Committee, with over 120 young people, has been working very hard to plan this conference to give young people a voice in our community and to show what great things young people can accomplish.

The purpose of this conference and resource fair is to provide youth with an opportunity to learn more about community resources, a chance to plan for their future, and a positive and safe environment to discuss and evaluate issues they face daily.

Students and advisors will receive conference materials, lunch and a conference theme t-shirt. The agenda, guidelines, maps to breakout sessions and school/agency nametags will be distributed to all students and advisors/chaperones at conference check-in. Groups will also be issued colored wrist bands that each person must wear all day. Anyone without a wristband will not receive lunch.

Please note for safety reasons: All students and chaperones will be provided T-shirts that must be worn on the day of the conference. This allows event organizers to identify authorized attendees and keep out unauthorized persons. Students and chaperones, not wearing T-shirts, will not be admitted to the conference. Also, all student groups (10 students & 1 adult chaperone) **MUST** stay together in their groups throughout the conference. Advisors/chaperones **MUST** stay with students the **ENTIRE** day, this means during opening and keynote speakers, during workshops, and during lunch. There should be no time when chaperones and youth are separated. Any group in violation of this request may be asked to leave the conference.

The designated parking area for school busses and agency vans or personal vehicles is in the P1 parking area, located directly south of the Convention Center (Rabobank Arena). Students may be dropped off along Truxtun Avenue and "N" Streets. Parking passes are not necessary or required. Busses and vehicles not parked in this designated area may be subject to parking tickets. **REGISTRATION AND CHECK-IN WILL BE LOCATED IN FRONT OF THE RABOBANK CONVENTION CENTER.**

****ALL ADULT ADVISORS: PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION BEFORE ENTERING THE RABOBANK CONVENTION CENTER ON REQUIRED ADULT SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS AT THIS YOUTH CONFERENCE****

Please note the required student to adult ratio is 10:1 and your school/agency is responsible for providing enough advisors/chaperones for your student attendees. Adult Advisors are required to stay with the students throughout the entire day. Schools or agencies in violation of this request may be asked to leave the conference.

It has been our experience that 95% of the adult advisors follow these guidelines. Unfortunately, some do not. It has come to our attention that some adult advisors do not accompany their students/youth throughout the day. Sadly we have had feedback from several schools that they will **NOT** attend our conference this year because they had a negative experience in workshops, in the main auditorium or Resource Fair with students left unattended. They said these students were interrupting youth presenters/speakers and using exceedingly foul language, even when asked by adult advisors from other schools to stop talking rudely or to stop using their cell phones. We had some vandalism in restrooms in past years that we were sent a repair bill to pay out of the conference fees. We are able to keep the cost for the conference very affordable (t-shirt, lunch and national speakers and workshops for aprox. \$20.00 per person) so that **ALL** students can attend. We have a very diverse group of student planners from all types of schools (public, private, community, continuation, charter) and that is the way we want to keep it.

If this happens this year, the unsupervised student groups will be asked to join their adult advisor and leave the conference and we will follow this up with a letter to the school Principal and Superintendent or Agency Director.

Please discuss your expectations for appropriate behavior with your students prior to entering the Convention Center. Remind your adult advisors that their role is to show they value your students by spending time **WITH THEM** today as they attend workshops, discuss speakers and talk with them about what they hear and see. We look forward to your support on this as it sends a clear message to your students that they matter and that you care about them.

2017 LEADERS IN LIFE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Conference Agenda

March 9, 2017

- 8:00 am - 9:00 am School and agency check-in
- 9:00 am - 10:15 am Welcome, Housekeeping, Introductions, Recognitions, and Opening Speaker
- 10:15 am - 10:25 am Break (all students transition to Session I)
- SESSION I**
Group A – Breakout Sessions
Group B – Breakout Sessions
Group C – Lunch/Resource Fair
- 10:25 am - 11:10 am
- 11:10 am - 11:20 am Break (all students transition to Session II)
- SESSION II**
Group A – Lunch/Resource Fair
Group B – Breakout Sessions
Group C – Breakout Sessions
- 11:20 am - 12:05 pm
- 12:05 pm - 12:15 pm Break (all students transition to Session III)
- SESSION III**
Group A – Breakout Sessions
Group B – Lunch/Resource Fair
Group C – Breakout Sessions
- 12:15 pm - 1:00 pm
- 1:00 pm - 1:10 pm Break (transition to auditorium)
- 1:10 pm - 2:10 pm Keynote Speaker - **Dale “Mad Dog” Messmer**
Motivational Speaker, Straight Talk Outreach Program (S.T.O.P)
- 2:10 pm - 2:15 pm Closing Remarks and Evaluations
- 2:15 pm Adjourn and load busses



2017 LEADERS IN LIFE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Breakout Session Workshop Topics

Student Leadership and Advocacy Workshop Strand

1. LEADERSHIP 101 - CREATING DYNAMIC YOUTH DRIVEN SCHOOL LEADERS - CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS (CASC)

Learn about CASC programs and their development of school, community, and statewide student leaders. The purpose of the California Association of Student Councils is to improve the quality of life in the world by developing skilled, ethical and sensitive leaders of diverse backgrounds and cultures. CASC advocates for youth, provides an avenue for the expression of student views and empowers young people.

Presenters: Nandeeni Patel, C.A.S.C. State President

2. I'M TOO YOUNG TO PREPARE FOR COLLEGE #NO YOU'RE NOT! (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

Middle School will prepare you for future opportunities. This workshop will explore the 6-year plan to set middle school students on a course to be successful in high school and then on to college or the workforce.

Open to 6th, 7th and 8th grade students ONLY

Presenter: Gena Lieske, Kern County AVID Manager & ACT Program Coordinator; Rose Douglas, Counselor at James Monroe Middle School

3. YOUR LIFE, YOUR CHOICE - STRAIGHT TALK OUTREACH PROGRAM (S.T.O.P) -- HOW TO LEAD BY "TELLING IT LIKE IT IS"

Learn from keynote speaker Dale Messmer about his commitment to help young people through his S.T.O.P. talks to help lead teens contemplating or experimenting with bad choices to make better life choices.

Presenter: Conference Keynote Speaker Dale "Mad Dog" Messmer

4. DREAM IT, BELIEVE IT, ACHIEVE IT-GRIZZLY YOUTH ACADEMY-DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP, SELF-CONFIDENCE AND OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (HIGH SCHOOL)

Grizzly Youth Academy staff and students will discuss how Grizzly develops leadership, self-confidence, and opportunity for high school students who choose to attend the program.

Open to high school students and advisors ONLY

Presenters: Panel of Grizzly Graduates, Grizzly Youth Academy staff

5. HOW DO I GET INVOLVED IN LEADERS IN LIFE?

A panel of students on the Leaders in Life Youth Conference Planning Committee will share about this opportunity for youth to have their voices heard in our community.

Presenters: Panel of Leaders in Life students in various grades; and Leaders in Life alumni.

Youth Voice to Improve School Climate Workshop Strand

6. YOUR SCHOOL – YOUR VOICE LCAP STUDENT INPUT TO HAVE A SAY IN OUR EDUCATION (KCSOS ONLY)

Make your voice heard -take this opportunity, open to **KCSOS Alternative Education** students, to provide suggestions on how to improve student engagement and make your school a better place to learn.

Presenters: Christian Shannon, Director – Alternative Education, KCSOS , CLC 34th Street , Blanton Center, and North Kern students

7. YOUR SCHOOL – YOUR VOICE LCAP STUDENT INPUT TO HAVE A SAY IN OUR EDUCATION (Kern High ONLY)

Make your voice heard -take this opportunity, open to **Kern High School District** students, to provide suggestions on how to improve student engagement and make your school a better place to learn.

Presenters: Hilda Rivero, KHSD Program Coordinator for LCAP/Technical Reports and a student panel from various Kern High School District sites.

8. LINK CREW... STUDENTS HELPING STUDENTS

Come and learn some strategies that will make high school a success! Link Crew is a program built on upperclassmen supporting freshmen during their transition into high school. Learn how to create a cross-age mentoring program that is tailored to your school and have fun at the same time.

Presenters: Link Crew

Issues Faced By Teens Workshop Strand

9. HOW TO BE AN UPSTANDER, NOT A BYSTANDER – SAFE SCHOOL AMBASSADORS BULLYING PREVENTION PROGRAM

An overview of the Safe School Ambassadors (SSA) bullying prevention evidence-based model program from the perspective of a panel of Middle School students. SSA is a student-centered training program that helps improve school climate and reduce bullying and mistreatment as required in the Local Control Accountability Plan.

PRESENTERS: Standard Middle School students and adult advisor, Jeaninne Cavazos

www.leadersinlife.org

MAILING ADDRESS: 1300 17TH STREET, 5TH FLOOR, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301, PHONE 661/852-5674, FAX 661/636-4135
OFFICE OF MARY C. BARLOW, KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, 1300 17TH STREET, CITY CENTRE, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301, WWW.KERN.ORG

10. CHOICES AND CONSEQUENCES: DUI SENTENCING

Students will witness an actual DUI sentencing. The workshop room will be converted into a temporary official courtroom, complete with judge, defendant, attorneys, and court clerk. At the completion of the sentencing phase, students will be allowed to ask the participants questions about the case. In addition, the judge will engage the students and speak personally to them about the consequences of DUI.

NOTE: This is a REAL DUI Sentencing. All court rules apply. Please advise all students and chaperones:

- Turn off all electronic devices
- Do not talk during the court proceedings
- Photos and video are prohibited

Attendees will be asked to leave or be held in contempt of court if they do not abide by these rules.

Presenters: Kern County Superior Court, Kern County District Attorney's Office, Kern County Public Defender's Office, & California Highway Patrol

11. SO YOU WANT TO BE A PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE? PRESENTED BY "WE ARE GAME" SPORTS MENTORING (JR. HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL ATHELETES & ADVISORS ONLY)

How junior high and high school student-athletes can balance sports and academics. Also, the transition from high school to college and college to the pros. What does it take to be successful? Education is your Plan B!

Presenters: Rashann Shehee former NFL player and professional and collegiate athletes from various sports

12. THERE IS LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

A talk by Gustavo Luna about overcoming life obstacles. During this talk, Gustavo shares his personal experiences to inspire youth to have hope that their lives will have "better days". We all have challenges in life, including teenagers, but that's not a reason to lose hope in life, even after challenging life circumstances such as family problems, health, loss of someone, or a broken heart.

Presenter: Gustavo Luna, Leaders in Life Youth Conference advisor & Owner of Learning Pro -a tutoring support program for students

13. #FINDINGBALANCE (JUNIOR HIGH ONLY)

Learn how to balance life in a savage world. Tips, tricks, and strategies to reduce stress, gain control and find balance. **(Recommended for 7th & 8th Grade Students & Advisors)**

Presenter: Joanne Barrick, School Counselor at Highland High School – Kern High School District

14. #FINDINGBALANCE (HIGH SCHOOL ONLY)

Learn how to balance life in a savage world. Tips, tricks, and strategies to reduce stress, gain control and find balance. **(Recommended for High School Students & Advisors)**

Presenter: Joanne Barrick, School Counselor at Highland High School – Kern High School District

15. STRESS & SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS: WHAT TEENS NEED TO KNOW TO HELP A FRIEND

In this interactive workshop, participants will learn how to recognize warning signs when friends going through tough times and how to reach out to support them.

Presenters: Tatia Hunter-Jennings and Katie Romley, School Counselors - Kern County Superintendent of Schools

16. WHO IS MENTORING YOU?

Christian Hosoi and Manuel Carrizalez share their stories of mentoring. Christian Hosoi is the only person to beat Tony Hawk in competition. You won't want to miss this!

Presenters: Manuel Carrizalez, Founder and Director of Reach 4 Greatness mentoring and Christian Hosoi – Professional Skateboarder

College and Career Exploration Workshop Strand**17. CREATING GOOD HABITS**

Would you like to improve your overall health and maintain a healthy, positive lifestyle? Our workshop will focus on how physical and emotional health affects you and how to manage it. Please join Peer Support Workers as they share helpful tips that can change your life

Presenters: Peer support workers (student panel) & Karine Kanikkeberg, Career Resource Dept. - Kern High School District

18. GET WHAT YOU WANT: USE THE POWER OF YOUR MIND TO CONTROL YOUR FUTURE AND ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS

Learn how to harness the power of your mind, create energy, enhance your mood, deal with negative people, set goals and achieve your dreams

Presenter: Denise Winston, Financial Expert & Author of Money Start Here!

Tobacco Use Prevention Education Strand**19. RELAY FOR LIFE – ONE DAY.ONE NIGHT.ONE COMMUNITY**

Your Relay For Life ® is about celebration, remembrance, and hope. By participating, you honor cancer survivors, pay tribute to the lives we've lost to the disease, and raise money to help fight it all right here in your community. You won't want to miss one moment of this life- and community-affirming event!

Presenter: Marcella Ives, Senior Market Manager, Community Engagement California Division, American Cancer Society, Inc.

20. CUT D.A.T. OUT

In this workshop, MyC3 Youth Group will inform you of the dangers of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco (D.A.T.) and through our presentation alongside other activities and raffles; this workshop promises to be educational as well as fun!

Presenters: MyC3 Youth Coalition from Frazier Park (Mountain Youth Can Change Communities) Micah Matte, Madi Richardson, Olivia Carlson, Hannah Bayer, Sarah Matte, & Everette Ludwig

21. E-CIGARETTES – IT’S WATER VAPOR! REALLY?

This workshop will focus on the latest trend increase of youth taking up e-cigarettes and other flavored tobacco products, the retail environment landscape and its role, and the health risks associated to their use.

Presenter: Nsele Nsuangani, Kern County Public Health Services Department

22. TOBACCO MARKETING TO YOUTH

Summarizes the results of the Healthy Retailers Healthy Community Data Collection. Describes the marketing efforts of the tobacco industry towards youth.

Presenters: Jesus Fuentes, Justin Moore and Savannah Valenzuela, adult advisor - Mr. Mark Lewy, East Bakersfield High School Health Academy

23. RED RIBBON WEEK- CREATING YOUR OWN NATURAL HIGH VIDEOS

Students know what types of messages to share with their peers about drug, alcohol and tobacco use that will most impact their peers. This workshop will highlight the power of positive peer pressure to focus on sharing positive role models and stories about making healthy choices to stay drug free. Student-created anti-drug and anti-tobacco videos will be shown to encourage teens to spark student participants to identify what they value in life and how staying off drugs will help them meet their goals and reach their dreams.

Presenters: Woodrow Wallace MS Leadership Advisor Stacy Sanders, Woodrow Wallace MS Leadership students - Isaac Steers, and Brenna Acosta

24. TOBACCO USE PREVENTION EDUCATION (TUPE): SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP HIGH-ENERGY MULTI-MEDIA PREVENTION EDUCATION PROJECTS

Kern County students and advisors will learn how to develop high-energy videos and multi-media projects to help convey effective messages to their peers on prevention-related topics.

Presenters: Greenfield School District After School Coordinator – Courtney Villasenor and Greenfield School District students

25. Flava In Ya Ear: The Power of Hip Hop Culture

This workshop will focus on how to use Hip Hop culture as a tool to promote student tobacco-use prevention education focused projects and meaningful dialogue. It will highlight strategies for getting the word out to peers and the community about advocacy efforts to make sure youth voices are heard and a powerful story is told that shapes and influences decision-making.

Presenters: Godfrey Ramos, MA, Coordinator Specialist, The LOOP

26. Knock Tobacco Out of The Park: Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT)

It is time to take tobacco out of baseball for good – to set the right example for America’s kids and protect the health of the players. Players’ use of smokeless tobacco sets a terrible example for millions of impressionable youth. Our national pastime should be about promoting a healthy and active lifestyle, not a deadly and addictive product. Mike McCarthy is the right messenger for all youth.

Presenters: : Mike McCarthy, Professional Baseball Player, helping student athletes use their voice to become youth advocates against chewing tobacco
