



PARTNERSHIP

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Friday Night Live



Club Live

Friday Night Live

Kids



Friday Night Live
Mentoring

California Youth
Council

Tulare County
Office of Education
Jim Vidak,
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California Friday Night Live
Collaborative

Youth Leadership
Institute



Friday Night Live
builds partnerships for
positive and healthy
youth development
which engage youth
as active leaders
and resources in
their communities.



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**THE CALIFORNIA FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE PARTNERSHIP AWARDS
MINI-GRANTS TO 34 YOUTH LED FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE CHAPTERS
ACROSS THE STATE TO PREVENT UNDERAGE DRINKING & PROMOTE
TRAFFIC SAFETY**

Visalia, California – The California Friday Night Live Partnership (CFNLP) has been awarded a \$400,000 grant to support the implementation of underage drinking prevention and traffic safety promotion projects. The funds will support 30 Friday Night Live (FNL) chapters across the state to address this important public safety issue at the local level. The grant is awarded by the California Office of Traffic Safety(OTS), with funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

With this cycle of grant funding from the Office of Traffic Safety, the FNL programs will continue to make strides in the areas of underage drinking prevention and traffic safety promotion. Thirty-four FNL and Club Live (CL) chapters will receive mini-grants to advance underage drinking prevention and traffic safety efforts in their local communities. These 34 chapters are located in twenty-one counties across California: Amador, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Los Angeles, Marin, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Solano, Stanislaus, Ventura; these counties are high-risk areas for collisions involving impaired drivers under 21 and/or all collisions involving an under 21-year-old driver. These projects aim to reduce underage drinking through education and environmental prevention strategies.

According to a report on underage drinking by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that, on average, alcohol is a factor in the deaths of 4,358 young people under age 21 each year. Nearly 23% of surveyed students in the 7th, 9th, and 11th grade reported using alcohol in the last 30 days, according to the 2013 California Healthy Kids Survey. (Kidsdata) Of those same surveyed students, 22% report drinking and driving or riding with a drinking driver (Kidsdata). These young people have put their lives in distinct and direct danger before even graduating from high school.

As part of the grant objectives, the California Friday Night Live Partnership will provide new and relevant resources to assist chapters with project implementation. Project activities will range from responsible alcohol merchant and merchant education campaigns, to social host ordinances and Lee Law enforcement, to social norms and messaging campaigns. Chapters will enhance these projects with additional activities like Casey's Pledge, Count Me In!, TRACE, DUI Courts in Schools and more. Young people in FNL chapters will lead this work with local support from long time local California Highway Patrol (CHP) and Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) partners.

ABC Director Jacob Appelsmith shared his enthusiasm for the project stating, "Friday Night Live has been a key partner, especially with our successful efforts to implement TRACE across the state. This new project will only help to expand that success in the upcoming year."

Additionally, the grant will help to fund the annual Friday Night Live Youth Summit, a state-wide two-day intense training opportunity for FNL chapter members. The 2017 FNL Youth

Summit was the largest yet, drawing almost 750 young people and their adult allies together to plan for change. Participants have multiple opportunities to hear from high-level, engaging keynote speakers, attend workshops and network with partners such as the Alcoholic Beverage Control, the California Highway Patrol, AT&T, In One Instant, Impact Teen Drivers and many others, and to plan projects and activities for the upcoming year. “The ‘Summit’ is a powerful opportunity for young people to learn about how they can organize to implement powerful campaigns of their own design, and create impactful changes in their community.” Kelly Browning, Impact Teen Drivers. The 2018 FNL Youth Summit will continue the legacy of this gathering: a life-changing experience that energizes Friday Night Live participants and partners and inspires young people to make community change through partnerships and new-found resources.

“Youth respond to other youth much better than adult driven and delivered messages,” says 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 truly matter.”

Background:

The Friday Night Live Program was created in 1984 by the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP), now the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS). It began as a pilot program dedicated to reducing the number of deaths and injuries caused by teen motorists driving under the influence of alcohol and other drugs. During the first years of the program, the youth involved were organized into high school-based student action groups, later renamed Friday Night Live (FNL) Chapters. By 1990, the number of counties with the FNL Program had increased by 300% and the main focus of the program began to shift from one of solely preventing drinking and driving among teens to one of promoting healthy lifestyles free of alcohol, tobacco, or other substance abuse among youth. Due to the overwhelming success of Friday Night Live, a middle/junior high school component was developed by the Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE). By 1991, this component had been expanded statewide by ADP and named Club Live (CL). In 1990, TCOE developed the Friday Night Live Kids (FNLK) Program, which focuses on youth in grades 4-6. By 1994, 48 counties were implementing either CL, FNLK, or both. Chapter locations had also broadened from school campus-based programs to recreation facilities, housing projects, youth centers, and youth in detention centers, reaching nearly one million youth throughout California.

Fast-forward to 2017 and the California Friday Night Live Partnership now supports over 700 chapters in 50 counties state-wide, directly reaching and empowering hundreds of thousands of young people, year after year. The FNL, CL, and FNL Kids programs are continually evolving and adapting to the latest trends and issues affecting youth, responding to current prevention and youth development research, and addressing the unique needs of each community served using relevant and effective strategies. FNL’s vision is to work hand in hand with young people so they are both problem free and fully prepared.

Over the last 33 years, youth partners in Friday Night Live, Club Live and Friday Night Live Kids chapters have created, influenced and fought for policies that protect young people from alcohol and drugs, and developed traffic safety policies and campaigns. They have built community partnerships with alcohol merchants, law enforcement, public officials and various organizations that work side by side with chapter members to build safer, healthier communities. These efforts would not be possible without the California Office of Traffic Safety for consistently and continually believing in the program and providing foundational funding for 33 continuous years.

The CFNLP office and staff are housed in the Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE), located in Visalia, California. County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak is a committed partner of the organization. Led by Administrator Dr. Jim Kooler, the Partnership is committed to the belief that a youth development framework, which is inclusive, comprehensive, youth-driven, and founded on current research, will improve the lives of young people and the communities in which they live. *Friday Night Live builds partnerships for positive and healthy youth development which engage youth as active leaders and resources in their communities.*