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Katherine Douglas *Public Comment, Cannabis Revenue Budget*

From: IndivisibleSM <indivisiblesantamaria@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2026 4:18 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Public Comment - 4/17 BOS Budget Workshop, Youth Fund

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Dear Board of Supervisors,

Indivisible Santa Maria supports the **Santa Barbara County Youth Impact Coalition** and their request for the Board to support the youth of our local communities by allocating County cannabis tax revenue towards funding a **Youth Fund pilot program**.

Since 2018, Santa Barbara County has collected nearly **\$55 million** from cannabis taxes. Prop 64, passed in 2016, directs revenue usage to support youth education and community services.

The Board can strengthen investment in youth development and enrichment programs by using funds from The County's current **\$780,000 unallocated** cannabis tax revenue.

In Santa Maria alone, the acute need for positive, after school enrichment activities, accessible mental health services that are culturally competent, early intervention and substance use prevention, and basic needs and support systems for young people persists.

Our young people deserve more. The youth of our county deserve our investment in their future.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Indivisible Santa Maria

Leadership Team



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