



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Board of Supervisors
Department No.: 011
For Agenda Of: October 12, 2010
Placement: Set Hearing
Estimated Tme: 30 minutes on 10/19/10
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Board Member(s) Supervisor Carbajal *AOC*
Contact Info: Jeremy Tittle 568-2186

SUBJECT: Santa Barbara Fighting Back 2009 Community Indicators Report

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: Select_Other

As to form: No

Recommended Actions:

Set hearing for October 19, 2010 to receive and file a 2009 Community Indicators Report by Santa Barbara Fighting Back.

Summary Text:

Every two years, Fighting Back Santa Barbara publishes a comprehensive report on 17 primary community indicators of substance abuse problems in South Santa Barbara County. The report includes data from the *California Healthy Kids Survey* in the Santa Barbara School District; truancy and suspension data from the Santa Barbara School District; crime statistics from the Santa Barbara Police Department, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's department, and California Highway Patrol; ADMHS data on the populations receiving county-funded treatment services; Coroner's Office data on alcohol and drug related deaths; and the *Safer California Universities Study Survey* results from UCSB. Together, these data sources provide a highly comprehensive view of the most serious substance abuse issues currently effecting South Santa Barbara County, as well as progress toward community goals of preventing and reducing substance abuse on the South Coast.

Background:

Santa Barbara Fighting Back is a community collaborative that works together to plan and implement community-wide initiatives to address the problems caused by substance abuse in South Santa Barbara County. The Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse is the administrative agency for the coalition. The coalition was founded in 1992, when CADA was one of the thirteen organizations nationwide awarded a \$3 million Fighting Back grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to fight alcohol and drug

abuse in their respective communities. For nearly two decades the 25-member Steering Committee comprised of community leaders from all sectors of the community has met monthly to help make policy and systems changes, and develop strategies to reduce the demand for alcohol and drugs in South County. These strategies are carried out and overseen by a number of task forces focused on specific sectors such as media, education, criminal justice, and public policy.

Report Highlights:

Among youth aged 12 – 17, *the good news is:*

- Alcohol and marijuana use decreased among 7th graders

The bad news is:

- There is an aggressive drinking culture among 11th graders
- Drinking and driving rates among 9th and 11th graders are higher than the California average
- Marijuana use among 9th and 11th graders is steadily increasing (higher than state average)
- For the first time, 11th graders reported having easier access to marijuana than to alcohol
- 70% of youth in county-funded treatment programs identified marijuana as their primary drug of choice

Among adults, *the good news is:*

- A declining percentage of adults in treatment for methamphetamine

The bad news is:

- Heroin surpassed methamphetamine as the second most prevalent drug used by adults in treatment
- Between 2008 and 2009 the number of alcohol and drug related deaths among South Santa Barbara County residents more than tripled
- The City of Santa Barbara has a high rate of alcohol-related collisions but lower rate of DUI arrests than other California cities of similar size
- Slightly more than half (52%) of UCSB students reported binge drinking during the past two weeks

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts: N/A

Staffing Impacts:

N/A

Special Instructions:

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Santa Barbara Fighting Back 2009 Community Indicators Report

Authored by:

Eric Friedman

cc: