



Board of Supervisors Memorandum

March 18, 2014

2014 Youth Leadership Conference

Background

For the last 25 years, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) has conducted the Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) to promote, develop and enhance leadership skills among youth in Pima County. The YLC encourages and motivates students to remain in school, set goals and reinforce education as the key to success. Another key component of the conference has been to expose students to an environment that fosters positive relationships among peers, teachers and the community. YLC also provides health, safety and prevention resources for teens.

The YLC is structured for students in Grades 6 through 12. During YLC's inaugural year, 900 Pima County youth participated in the conference; in 2013, there were more than 1,500 participants. Since 1988, more than 100,000 young people have attended a YLC.

The 25th Annual Youth Leadership Conference will be held on March 14, 2014 at the Pima Community College West Campus.

Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Supervisors approve a Contingency Fund allocation in the amount of \$12,500 for the 2014 Youth Leadership Conference.

Respectfully submitted,


C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

CHH/mjk – March 13, 2014

Attachment



25th Annual L.U.L.A.C.
Youth Leadership Conference and Educators Banquet
Education is the Key to Success
www.lulacyle.org



LULAC Youth Leadership Conference

Our Purpose: LULAC has striven to promote, develop, and enhance leadership skills among youth in Pima County. The philosophy behind the Youth Leadership Conference for the last twenty-five years has been to encourage and motivate students to remain in school, set goals and reinforce education as the key to success. Another key factor has been to expose students to an environment that fosters positive relationships among peers, teachers and the community.

Our Challenge: Our community and our nation face a major challenge. While Latinos are the largest and fastest growing population in America, they are also least likely to attend college. A great number of Latinos don't know how to prepare, apply and pay for college. Latinos are still falling behind other groups in vital education indicators like literacy, math, and science proficiency. This is a dangerous combination. With a continuously changing workforce dependent on increased skills and training, Latinos won't be able to take advantage of the best career opportunities. With more than half of the U.S.'s population growth fueled by the Latino community, the education gap could get much worse if nothing's done.

Our Solution: Founded in 1988 by LULAC Council #1057, the LULAC Youth Leadership Conference was developed in response to concerns about the state of education and the lack of programs that promoted and developed leadership in middle and high school students. At the time of its founding, it was believed that schools needed assistance from the community with these key issues. With the cooperation and involvement of local public, private, and charter schools, as well as institutions of higher learning, a nationally recognized program was born to assist students with resources, mentoring and leadership skills thereby equipping them with the necessary tools to help them remain in school, graduate, and further their education.

During its inaugural year, the conference reached 900 youth, a number surpassed in subsequent years to the current attendance level of more than 1,500 youth in an expanded program targeted at 6th through 12th grade students. To date, the conference has been host to over 100,000 participants. Since that inaugural year our goals have been to promote the importance of learning and individual leadership as vital to all children and to encourage the participation of the community in all facets of this promotion by offering students important prevention strategies, information, and resources for academic and scholarship needs so that they may improve their educational opportunities and achieve their life goals.

This year's Conference will be held at Pima Community College West Campus, (2202 W. Anklam Road) on Friday, March 14, 2014 from 8:00 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

