

News Release

For Immediate Release: September 29, 2000

Federal Government Invests \$14 Million in East San Jose Youth

Providing everyone with a chance for success is the purpose of the two major grants given to East San Jose.

The \$7.9 million Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative, funded by the U.S. Departments of Education, Justice, and Health and Human Services, promotes safety, early childhood development, mental health and academic success. It also addresses the problems of school violence, alcohol and drug abuse. The project brings together schools, city, county and community agencies to support community-wide approaches to early intervention and healthy student development. This three-year grant targets East Side's Independence, Yerba Buena, W.C. Overfelt and Andrew Hill High Schools and Alum Rock's Lee Mathson and Clyde Fisher Middle Schools and Franklin McKinley's Sylvandale and J.W. Fair Middle Schools and their feeder elementary schools.

The five-year Gear Up Grant funded at \$6.1 million is aimed at substantially increasing the number of students who are prepared to enter and enroll in college. The grant focuses on supporting students, parents and teachers in this process. San Jose State University is the lead agency in this effort. The same East San Jose communities are targeted. The program will start with current 7th graders in the targeted middle schools and follow them through their high school years. Each year a new group of 7th graders is included.



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