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NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
DEPARTMENT

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

1231 I STREET, SUITE 400
SACRAMENTO, CA
95814

March 25, 2003

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: COMMUNITY MENTORING PROGRAM

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide.

RECOMMENDATION: Information only; no action required.

CONTACT PERSONS: Kelly Montgomery, Neighborhood Services Area Director, 433-2261
Terrence L. Woods, Director of Human Resources, 264-5943

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: April 8, 2003

SUMMARY:

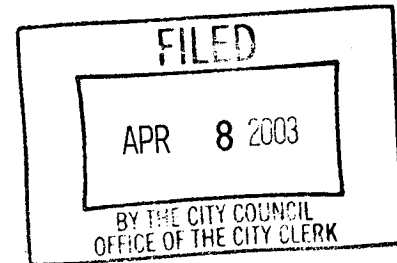
This report provides information on the status of the City's Community Mentoring Program and summarizes the City's Community Mentoring Fair that occurred on January 30, 2003. Research indicates that youth who are the recipients of consistent attention from positive adult role models have improved chances of academic and social success in life.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION: None

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In Spring 2001, Council identified mentoring as one of its objectives for meeting the strategic goal of enhancing educational opportunities for the community. In working with the Greater Sacramento United Way, staff determined that the most practical approach to establishing a community mentoring program for City employees would be to provide them with information on mentoring options in their areas of interest.

The Neighborhood Services and Human Resources Departments sponsored a "City of Sacramento Community Mentoring Fair" on January 30 (National Mentoring Month) at the



Library Galleria. More than 15 community agencies participated in the Fair and provided information to City employees on mentoring opportunities:

- People Reaching Out
- Sacramento CASA
- Another Choice, Another Chance
- Communities in Schools
- 100 Black Men of Sacramento
- Greater Sacramento Urban League
- Sacramento Office of Education
- Youth Guidance Connection
- Boys and Girls Club of Greater Sacramento
- Sacramento Chinese Community Service Center
- Academic Mentor Program
- Foster Youth Services
- Sacramento City Unified School District
- Youth Connection
- Sacramento County Probation
- Sacramento WIA Youth Program

The following are key findings from the Fair:

- 39 City employees from 12 different departments attended;
- The most often stated method for finding out about the event was via e-mail and the "City Tool Box";
- The level of satisfaction was high -- 50% stated it was "excellent", 50% stated it was "good", and 0% stating "satisfactory" or "poor";
- The highest level of interest for mentoring was "youth", compared to "children" or adult".

Based on the moderate level of interest expressed by employees, staff recommends continuing efforts to provide information on existing mentoring opportunities in the community. The Human Resources Department, Organizational Development Division, will coordinate a similar Fair in January 2004 and 2005 to assess level of employee participation and interest, and report findings to Council.

In addition to gathering information from the Fair, staff worked with the United Way to research successful models for community mentoring in the Sacramento region. Two successful programs identified are the Lunch Buddy Mentoring and the Reading Buddy Mentoring Program. The most popular program among employees and students is the Lunch Buddy mentoring program. Employees spend one lunch hour per week, or every other week, with their student buddies. The purpose of the Lunch Buddy program is to provide positive adult role models for at-risk students. Employees bring lunch for the students and spend time together talking about what is happening in the children's lives, playing games, reading or working on

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crafts. The Reading Buddy Program is modeled along the lines of the Lunch Buddy effort and involves tutors who read to kids or help them with homework.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

No additional funding is requested under this report. However, the cost for the annual fair is approximately \$2100.00.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no environmental considerations associated with this report.

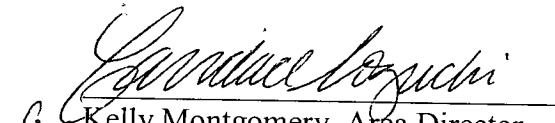
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

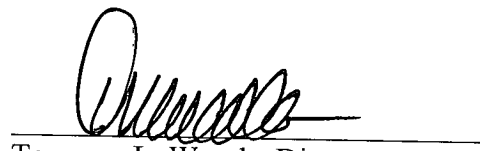
This recommended community mentoring effort is in direct support of the City's Strategic Plan to enhance educational opportunities within the community and specifically addresses initiative E.I.B.1 in the Strategic Plan. Indirectly, the city's mentoring efforts also support the strategic goal of developing employees.

ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:

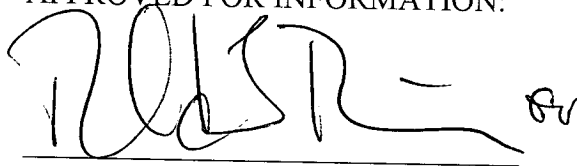
No major goods or services are being purchased under this report.

Respectfully submitted,


for Kelly Montgomery, Area Director
Neighborhood Services Department


Terrence L. Woods, Director
Human Resources Department

APPROVED FOR INFORMATION:


Robert P. Thomas
City Manager