

---

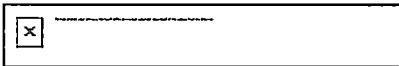
**From:** Jose Espinoza <jespinoza@yli.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 09, 2021 11:34 AM  
**To:** BOSComments  
**Subject:** Letters of Support for Upcoming BOS Meeting (Item #9)  
**Attachments:** Fresno Councilman Mike Karbassi- YLI Support Letter.pdf; Lee Brand -YLI Support letter to Fresno County Board of Supervisors 2021.docx.pdf; Kerman USD Robert Frausto- YLI Letter of Support.pdf; Fresno County Board Trustee James Martinez- YLI Letter of Support - Fresno County BOS.pdf; Valley Children's Healthcare- YLI Support Letter to Fresno County Board of Supervisors .pdf; Roosevelt FNL Advisor.pdf

**CAUTION!!! - EXTERNAL EMAIL - THINK BEFORE YOU CLICK**

Hi Board of Supervisors,

I hope you are all doing well. My name is Jose Espinoza. I am the Program Manager for the Friday Night Live program at the Youth Leadership Institute. As we are on the agenda for this upcoming Tuesday July 13th as item #9, I have attached letters of support from Fresno Councilmember Mike Karbassi (District 2), James Martinez (Fresno County Board of Education Trustee Area 3), Robert Frausto (Kerman Unified School District Superintendent), Lynne Ashbeck (Valley Children's Healthcare), Former Fresno Mayor Lee Brand, Mrs. Aimee Bogna (Roosevelt HS Teacher in Fresno). We look forward to being present on Tuesday. Please feel free to let us know if there is anything else you need.

Sincerely,  
Jose Espinoza



**Jose Espinoza**

*Pronouns: He, Him, His*

Program Manager

Youth Leadership Institute

700 Van Ness Ave., Suite #013, Fresno, Ca. 93721

Office: (559)492-9501

[www.yli.org](http://www.yli.org)



**MIKE KARBASSI**  
Councilmember, District Two - Northwest

Wednesday, July 7, 2021

Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
Hall of Records  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301  
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Letter of Support for Youth Leadership Institute

Dear Fresno County Supervisors:

The purpose of this letter is to offer my wholehearted support for the Youth Leadership Institute's (YLI) efforts to help Fresno County's youth population dealing with substance abuse. My office has partnered with YLI in the past two years to further the initiatives of the Fresno Youth Commission, where my district's youth representative serves as Chairperson.

On March 15, 2021 YLI received notification from the Fresno County Purchasing Manager that they would not receive RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. YLI appealed this decision because the tentatively awarded provider *did not* submit the required budget documents outlined in the RFP requirements.

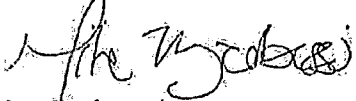
On April 26, 2021, the County Administrator's Office upheld YLI's second appeal and tentatively awarded YLI the RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. I am pleased to hear that YLI will continue to provide the Friday Night Live Program as well as the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Services for Youth in Fresno County.

YLI has delivered critical services to our community for over 16 years, and I am excited to see them continue to make strong contributions across the county. As a local and national leader in youth development, YLI continues to grow an established network of relationships and a core strategy of working with schools and community-based organizations to provide effective evidence-based prevention programs. These programs are designed to meet the following goals: (1) provide youth with the resilience and leadership skills to avoid alcohol and other substance use and develop solutions that address the root causes of underage drinking, (2) promote communities that support healthy choices and foster sustainable healthy change, and (3) build effective cross-generational relationships among youth and adults to strengthen communities.

City of Fresno  
City Hall • 2600 Fresno Street • Fresno, California 93721-3600  
(559) 621-8000 • FAX (559) 237-4010 • [www.fresno.gov](http://www.fresno.gov)

Fresno County's youth participating in YLI programs receive the adequate skills, knowledge, and leadership capacity to create positive sustainable change in our communities to address the issues of underage drinking and other substance use. The County of Fresno has the unique opportunity to continue to support and encourage youth leading positive community change, by funding the innovative programs that YLI provides. I am grateful for the opportunity to work more closely in partnership with YLI and other community partners to support the leadership development of young people in Fresno County. Should you need to contact me, I can be reached at (559) 621-7821 or via email at [mike.karbassi@fresno.gov](mailto:mike.karbassi@fresno.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Karbassi". The signature is written in a cursive style with some loops and flourishes.

Mike Karbassi

May 17, 2021

Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
Hall of Records  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301  
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Letter of Support for Youth Leadership Institute

Dear Fresno County Board of Supervisors:

My name is Lee Brand and I enthusiastically write to you today on behalf of the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI). I have partnered with YLI During my tenure as Mayor of Fresno I worked directly with YLI, and I support their mission to engage youth to work with the community on important issues. They worked diligently on a citywide campaign to address the serious issue of underage drinking in Fresno resulting in creation of a city ordinance that regulates liquor sales.

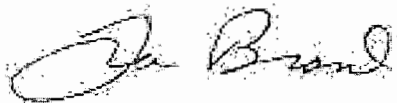
On March 15, 2021 YLI received notification from the Fresno County Purchasing Manager that they would not receive RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. YLI appealed this decision because the tentatively awarded provider *did not* submit the required budget documents outlined in the RFP requirements.

On April 26, 2021, the County Administrator's Office upheld YLI's second appeal and tentatively awarded YLI the RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. I am pleased to hear that YLI will continue to provide the Friday Night Live Program as well as the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Services for Youth in Fresno County.

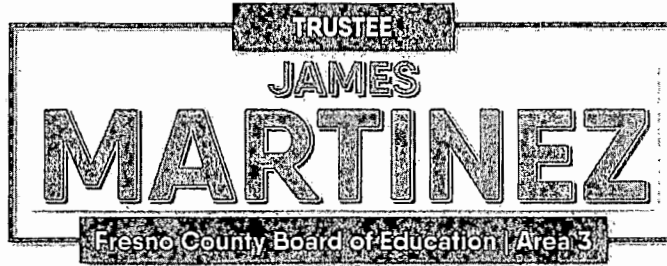
YLI has delivered critical services to our community for over 16 years, and we are excited to see them continue to make strong contributions across the county, and especially in our rural communities. As a local and national leader in youth development, YLI continues to grow an established network of relationships and a core strategy of working with schools and community-based organizations to provide effective evidence-based prevention programs. These programs are designed to meet the following goals: (1) provide youth with the resilience and leadership skills to avoid alcohol and other substance use and develop solutions that address the root causes of underage drinking, (2) promote communities that support healthy choices and foster sustainable healthy change, and (3) build effective cross-generational relationships among youth and adults to strengthen communities.

Young people participating in YLI programs receive the adequate skills, knowledge, and leadership capacity to create positive sustainable change in our communities to address the issues of underage drinking and other substance use. The County of Fresno has the unique opportunity to continue to support and encourage youth leading positive community change, by funding the innovative programs that YLI provides. I am grateful for the opportunity to work more closely in partnership with YLI and other community partners to support the leadership development of young people in Fresno County. Should you need to contact me, I can be reached at (559) 905-5080 or via email at [lbrand@west-co.com](mailto:lbrand@west-co.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Brand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lee" being more prominent and the last name "Brand" following in a similar style.

Lee Brand, former Mayor of Fresno

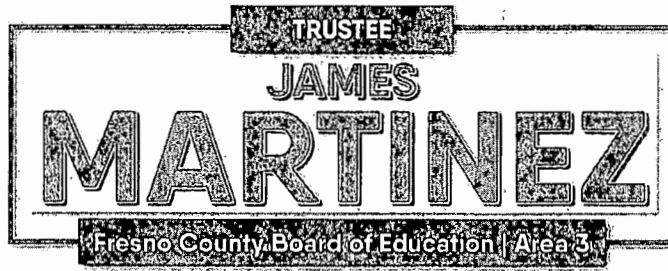


Young people participating in YLI programs receive the skills, knowledge, and leadership capacity to create positive, sustainable, and meaningful change in our communities to address the issues of underage drinking and other substance use. The County of Fresno has the unique opportunity to continue to support and encourage youth leading positive community change by funding the innovative programs that YLI provides. I am grateful for the opportunity to work closely in partnership with YLI and other community partners to support the leadership development of young people in Fresno County. Should you need to contact me, I can be reached at 559-824-5721 or via email at [james.martinez@fcoe.org](mailto:james.martinez@fcoe.org).

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and appears to read "James D. Martinez".

James D. Martinez  
Trustee, Area 3  
Fresno County Board of Education



June 15, 2021

Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
Hall of Records  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301  
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Letter of Support for Youth Leadership Institute

Dear Fresno County Board of Supervisors:

My name is James Martinez and I write to you today on behalf of the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI).

On March 15, 2021 YLI received notification from the Fresno County Purchasing Manager that they would not receive RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. YLI appealed this decision because the tentatively awarded provider *did not* submit the required budget documents outlined in the RFP requirements.

On April 26, 2021, the County Administrator's Office upheld YLI's second appeal and tentatively awarded YLI the RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. I am pleased to hear that YLI will continue to provide the Friday Night Live Program, as well as the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Services for Youth in Fresno County.

YLI has delivered critical services to our community for over 16 years, and we are excited to see them continue to make strong contributions across the county, and especially in our rural communities. As a local and national leader in youth development, YLI continues to grow an established network of relationships and a core strategy of working with schools and community-based organizations to provide effective evidence-based prevention programs.

These programs are designed to meet the following goals: (1) provide youth with the resilience and leadership skills to avoid alcohol and other substance use and develop solutions that address the root causes of underage drinking, (2) promote communities that support healthy choices and foster sustainable healthy change, and (3) build effective cross-generational relationships among youth and adults to strengthen communities.



June 29, 2021

9300 Valley Children's Place  
Madera, CA 93636

(559) 353-3000  
valleychildrens.org

Chair Steve Brandau  
Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301  
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Letter of Support for Youth Leadership Institute

Dear Chair Brandau:

On behalf of Valley Children's Healthcare, please accept this letter of support for the continued work of the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) in the areas of alcohol and other drug prevention services in Fresno County.

YLI has delivered critical services to our community for over 16 years and we are pleased to see them continuing to make strong contributions across the county, and especially in our rural communities. YLI has an established network of relationships and a core strategy of working with schools and community-based organizations to provide effective evidence-based prevention programs. These programs are designed to: (1) provide youth with the resilience and leadership skills to avoid alcohol and other substance use and develop solutions that address the root causes of underage drinking, (2) promote communities that support healthy choices and foster sustainable healthy change, and (3) build effective cross-generational relationships among youth and adults to strengthen communities.

There are few local agencies better at engaging our youth in meaningful ways than YLI. Young people participating in YLI programs have the chance to learn the skills, knowledge, and leadership capacity to create positive sustainable change in our communities to address the issues of underage drinking and other substance use. The County of Fresno has the unique opportunity to continue to support and encourage youth leading positive community change by funding the innovative programs that YLI provides.

Please feel free to contact me if I can provide additional information.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynne Ashbeck", followed by a horizontal line.

Lynne Ashbeck  
SVP, Community Engagement & Population Wellness

Cc: Jean Rousseau

June 29, 2021

Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
Hall of Records  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301  
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Letter of Support for Youth Leadership Institute

Dear Fresno County Board of Supervisors:

The Fresno County Friday Night Live youth leadership team also known as the Youth Advocacy Leadership League (YALL) Team write to you today in support of the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) tentative award to deliver Prevention and Early Intervention services and the Friday Night Live Program throughout Fresno County. YLI has allowed us opportunities to address underage drinking while creating a safe space, giving us a voice, allowing us to be involved in the community, having opportunities for leadership and skill building and being able to build caring and meaningful relationships. It has created a space for youth to feel that our voices are heard.

On March 15, 2021 YLI received notification from the Fresno County Purchasing Manager that they would not receive RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. YLI appealed this decision because the tentatively awarded provider *did not* submit the required budget documents outlined in the RFP requirements.

On April 26, 2021, the County Administrator's Office upheld YLI's second appeal and tentatively awarded YLI the RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. I am pleased to hear that YLI will continue to provide the Friday Night Live Program as well as the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Services for Youth in Fresno County.

YLI has delivered critical services to our community for over 16 years, and we are excited to see them continue to make strong contributions across the county, and especially in our rural communities. As a local and national leader in youth development, YLI continues to grow an established network of relationships and a core strategy of working with schools and community-based organizations to provide effective evidence-based prevention programs. These programs are designed to meet the following goals: (1) provide youth with the resilience and leadership skills to avoid alcohol and other substance use and develop solutions that address the root causes of underage drinking, (2) promote communities that support healthy choices and foster sustainable healthy change, and (3) build effective cross-generational relationships among youth and adults to strengthen communities.

Young people participating in YLI programs receive the adequate skills, knowledge, and leadership capacity to create positive sustainable change in our communities to address the issues of underage drinking and other substance use. The County of Fresno has the unique opportunity to continue to support and encourage youth leading positive community change, by funding the innovative programs that YLI provides. We are grateful for the opportunity to work more closely in partnership with YLI and other community partners to support the leadership development of young people in Fresno County and have also included a list of youth in our community that are in support at the bottom of this document.



Sincerely,



---

Shakira Yang , Fresno County YALL Team Sunnyside Representative



---

Crystal Moua, Fresno County YALL Team Sunnyside Representative



---

Arlet Vergara-Villareal, Fresno County YALL Team Sunnyside Representative



---

Nancy Aguilar-Aquino, Fresno County YALL Team Edison Representative



---

Sharon Moreno, Fresno County YALL Team Roosevelt Representative

*Kamryn Rattana*

---

Kamryn Rattana , Fresno County YALL Team Roosevelt Representative

*Nicole M.*

---

Nicole Hernandez, Fresno County YALL Team Reedley Middle College Representative

**Additional Youth Supporters:**

*Lily Vang*

---

Lily Vang ,CSU Los Angeles, California Youth Council Fresno Representative Alumni

*Elizabeth Ruiz*

---

Elizabeth Ruiz ,CSU Fresno , Sunnyside FNL '20 Alumni

*Nicell Umarez*

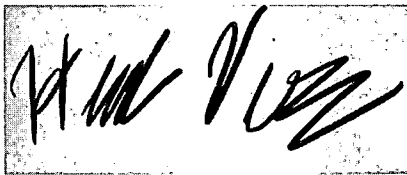
---

Nicol Umanzor, Reedley Middle College High School member

*Nicol Umanzor*

---

Leonel Vasquez, Reedley Middle College High School

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Leonel Vasquez".

---

Heidi Virgen, Orange Cove High School

*Jesus Lopez Espinoza*

---

[Jesus Lopez Espinoza, Cal Poly, City of Fresno Youth Commission]

*Evelyn Gamble*

---

[Evelyn Gamble, Fresno City College, City of Fresno Youth Commission]



# Kerman Unified School District

Robert Frausto, District Superintendent  
Gordon Pacheco, Assistant Superintendent Personnel  
Kraig L. Magnussen, Assistant Superintendent/Chief Business Official  
Pam Sellick, Assistant Superintendent Educational Services

Board of Trustees  
Daniel Babshoff  
Maria S. Cantu  
Efrain Guizar  
Kindra Melgoza  
Jim Volkoff

July 7, 2021

Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
Hall of Records  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301  
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Letter of Support for Youth Leadership Institute

Dear Fresno County Board of Supervisors:

My name is Robert Frausto and I enthusiastically write to you today on behalf of the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI). Kerman Unified School District has partnered with YLI for over 10 years. During that period of time YLI has worked closely with Kerman Middle School and Kerman High School students.

On March 15, 2021, YLI received notification from the Fresno County Purchasing Manager that they would not receive RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. YLI appealed this decision because the tentatively awarded provider *did not* submit the required budget documents outlined in the RFP requirements.

On April 26, 2021, the County Administrator's Office upheld YLI's second appeal and tentatively awarded YLI the RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. I am pleased to hear that YLI will continue to provide the Friday Night Live Program as well as the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Services for Youth in Fresno County.

YLI has delivered critical services to our community for over 16 years, and we are excited to see them continue to make strong contributions across the county, and especially in our rural communities. As a local and national leader in youth development, YLI continues to grow an established network of relationships and a core strategy of working with schools and community-based organizations to provide effective evidence-based prevention programs. These programs are designed to meet the following goals: (1) provide youth with the resilience and leadership skills to avoid alcohol and other substance use and develop solutions that address the root causes of underage drinking, (2) promote communities that support healthy choices and foster sustainable healthy change, and (3) build effective cross-generational relationships among youth and adults to strengthen communities.

Young people participating in YLI programs receive the adequate skills, knowledge, and leadership capacity to create positive sustainable change in our communities to address the issues of underage drinking and other substance use. The County of Fresno has the unique opportunity to continue to support and encourage youth leading positive community change by funding the innovative programs that YLI provides. I am grateful for the opportunity to work more closely in partnership with YLI and other community partners to support the leadership development of young people in Fresno County. Should you need to contact me, I can be reached at (559) 843-9016 or via email at [robert.frausto@kermanusd.com](mailto:robert.frausto@kermanusd.com).

Sincerely,

  
Robert Frausto  
Superintendent  
Kerman Unified School District

Notice of Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities: The Kerman Unified School District prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived ancestry, age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, nationality, race or ethnicity, ethnic group identification, religion, marital or parental status, sex, sexual orientation or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics. (Designated Compliance Officer: Assistant Superintendent Personnel, Address: 15218 W. Whitesbridge Avenue, Kerman, CA 93630, Phone Number: (559) 843-9000)

15218 W. Whitesbridge Avenue  
Kerman, California 93630

Home of the Lions

Phone (559) 843-9000  
Fax (559) 840-4283

May 17, 2021

Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
Hall of Records  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301  
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Letter of Support for Youth Leadership Institute

Dear Fresno County Board of Supervisors:

My name is Aimee Bogna and I enthusiastically write to you today on behalf of the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI). I have partnered with YLI as the Roosevelt High School Friday Night Live Chapter advisor.

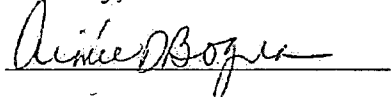
On March 15, 2021 YLI received notification from the Fresno County Purchasing Manager that they would not receive RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. YLI appealed this decision because the tentatively awarded provider *did not* submit the required budget documents outlined in the RFP requirements.

On April 26, 2021, the County Administrator's Office upheld YLI's second appeal and tentatively awarded YLI the RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. I am pleased to hear that YLI will continue to provide the Friday Night Live Program as well as the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Services for Youth in Fresno County.

YLI has delivered critical services to our community for over 16 years, and we are excited to see them continue to make strong contributions across the county, and especially in our rural communities. As a local and national leader in youth development, YLI continues to grow an established network of relationships and a core strategy of working with schools and community-based organizations to provide effective evidence-based prevention programs. These programs are designed to meet the following goals: (1) provide youth with the resilience and leadership skills to avoid alcohol and other substance use and develop solutions that address the root causes of underage drinking, (2) promote communities that support healthy choices and foster sustainable healthy change, and (3) build effective cross-generational relationships among youth and adults to strengthen communities.

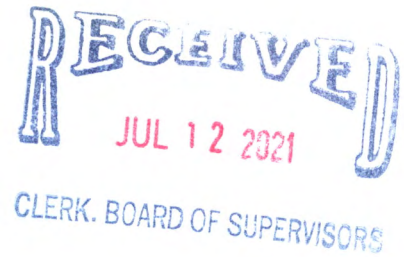
Young people participating in YLI programs receive the adequate skills, knowledge, and leadership capacity to create positive sustainable change in our communities to address the issues of underage drinking and other substance use. The County of Fresno has the unique opportunity to continue to support and encourage youth leading positive community change, by funding the innovative programs that YLI provides. I am grateful for the opportunity to work more closely in partnership with YLI and other community partners to support the leadership development of young people in Fresno County. Should you need to contact me, I can be reached at (559) 270-8391 or via email at [Aimee.Bogna@fresnounified.org](mailto:Aimee.Bogna@fresnounified.org).

Sincerely,



Aimee Bogna

Roosevelt High School Friday Night Live Chapter Advisor



July 12, 2021

Fresno County Board of Supervisors  
Hall of Records  
2281 Tulare Street, Room 301  
Fresno, CA 93721

Dear Steve, Nathan, Buddy, Brian and Sal,

It is my pleasure to ask to support awarding a Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention Grant to the Youth Leadership Institute (YLI).

I have worked closely with YLI to help youth in Fresno. Youth development and leadership is a key component of our One Fresno Vision and YLI is one of our strongest partners.

I understand that YLI appealed the tentative award of RFP No. 21-021 to another vendor for not providing all of the necessary documents and their appeals were upheld earlier this year and that the County Administrator's Office tentatively awarded YLI the RFP No. 21-021, Substance Use Disorder Primary Prevention, Sections I - IV. I am pleased to hear that YLI will continue to provide the Friday Night Live Program as well as the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Services for Youth in Fresno County.

YLI has delivered critical services to our community for over 16 years, and we are excited to see them continue to make strong contributions across the county. As a local and national leader in youth development, YLI continues to grow an established network of relationships and a core strategy of working with schools and community-based organizations to provide effective evidence-based prevention programs. These programs are designed to meet the following goals: (1) provide youth with the resilience and leadership skills to avoid alcohol and other substance use and develop solutions that address the root causes of underage drinking, (2) promote communities that support healthy choices and foster sustainable healthy change, and (3) build effective cross-generational relationships among youth and adults to strengthen communities.

Young people participating in YLI programs receive the adequate skills, knowledge, and leadership capacity to create positive sustainable change in our communities to address the issues of underage drinking and other substance use. Your Board has the unique opportunity to continue to support and encourage youth leading positive community change, by funding the innovative programs that YLI provides. I am grateful for the opportunity to work more closely in partnership with YLI and other community partners to support the leadership development of young people in Fresno County.

Thank you for your support of YLI and our area youth.

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Jerry Dyer".

Jerry Dyer  
City of Fresno Mayor