



United Way of
San Luis Obispo County



What's raised in SLO County stays in SLO County!

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 8, 2009

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United Way Program Encourages Philanthropy and Leadership in Youth

San Luis Obispo, Calif. – The United Way of San Luis Obispo County Youth Board brings together students from all across the county to act as a Board of Directors. Students adopt their own mission statement and set of by laws, learn about the needs of the community and connect with peers from outside their own school community. At the end of the school year, board members will award three \$1,000 grants to local health and human service organizations.

The 2008-2009 Youth Board has 12 members, ranging in age from 14-17, who come from three area high schools. This year's executive officers are President JohnAugust Bridgeford, a sophomore at San Luis Obispo High School, Vice-President Garrett Bych, a junior at Mission College Preparatory, Treasurer Nick Teaford, a sophomore at SLOHS, and Secretary Marissa Bych, also a sophomore at SLOHS. Other members include Jessica Burke, Julian Capen, Anna Costello, Emily Kraus, Nicole Kingsley, Amber Mahmood, Sierra Phillips and James Teaford. Sierra Vista Regional Medical Center provides refreshments and a board room for the monthly meetings. Sempra Energy is also "helping to bring new energy to community involvement" by their investment in the UWSLO Youth Board.

"We hope students will learn to better care for one another and see the importance of giving back to the community," said Rick London, CEO of United Way. "While we work to grow a new generation of philanthropists, they will be able to hone their leadership skills and make a difference in the community." The UWSLO Youth Board seeks to increase philanthropy and leadership in San Luis Obispo County youth, improve programs to better serve our community, and promote positive relationships between youth and adults.

United Way of SLO County is an independent, nonprofit organization governed by a board of volunteers. It is affiliated by membership with United Way of America and strives to build a stronger, healthier, more compassionate community through investing in programs serving education, income and health.

For more information about United Way of SLO County or the Youth Board program, email youthboard@unitedwayslo.org, visit www.unitedwayslo.org or call (805) 541-1234.

Enclosed: Youth Board members Live United. From left to right, Nicole Kingsley, Emily Kraus, Amber Mahmood, James Teaford, Nick Teaford, Jessica Burke, Anna Costello, Garrett Bych, and Julian Capen.

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This news release is available on the United Way of San Luis Obispo County website at
<http://www.unitedwayslo.org/News/index.html>