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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

County Supervisors & Workforce Investment Board announce Youth Corps as the new program for the out-of-school youth

Santa Barbara County Supervisors along with the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) announced today an award of a \$1.1 million new contract for the creation of a countywide Youth Corps program. After a recommendation from the Youth Advisory Council, the WIB approved the selection of the Community Action Commission (CAC) as the program operator. The program will serve at least 125 at-risk youth.

The CAC will develop Santa Barbara County's strategy to best serve at-risk and out-of-school youth through the highly acclaimed Youth Corps program model.

"I am extremely excited that our County has established this innovative program which will have a lasting impact on the lives of young people in our community. The Youth Corps program is one of our key means of directly addressing the issue of youth violence, by creating opportunities for at-risk youth to work constructively on projects that better our community while learning critical life and workplace skills in the process," said First District Supervisor Salud Carbajal.

The Corps program model operates in hundreds of communities throughout 42 states and Washington, D.C. It is a proven method with youth to increase their success potential, teach them good citizenship skills and teamwork through community service. The Corps will give young men and women the chance to change their communities throughout the county and their own lives.

Since the targeted youth are not on the college track, the Corps will work hand-in-hand with Santa Barbara City College and Alan Hancock College to ensure educational activities that will combine with community service and environmental projects.

The Youth Corps is funded by the Workforce Investment Act and not the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (stimulus funds). Successful applicants for the Corps must meet economically disadvantaged guidelines and other barriers. More information can be obtained by calling (805) 681-4431.

The Workforce Investment Board is made up of both private and public sectors. It works to close the unemployment gap and provide training and jobs for youth, adults and dislocated workers.

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COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
Workforce Investment Board

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Pay Community Action Commission \$ 1,100,000.00
One Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars

Youth Corps