

Recommendations to the Proposition 64 Stakeholder Group From the California AfterSchool Network

Recommendation 1: Focus on guiding principles instead of a prescribed split.

- Our stakeholder group can be a powerful united voice advocating for a set of guiding principles (e.g., the principles put forward by the youth committee and workforce committees). Our stakeholder group recommendations should focus on such principles rather than a prescribed split. Recommending a specific split will further divide the stakeholder group and move away from the unified voice the group is trying to achieve.
- Implementation should focus on partnerships across the full spectrum of care including education, prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery based on local need. The importance of such partnerships are outlined in the Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health¹ (p. 95). "To build effective, sustainable prevention across age groups and populations, communities should build cross-sector community coalitions which assess and prioritize local levels of risk and protective factors and substance misuse problems and select and implement evidence-based interventions matched to local priorities." Education and health agencies should be empowered to create innovative investments and partnerships across the spectrum and should not be limited by an arbitrary split of funding.
- Implementation should be focused based on strategies to address documented local needs. This is consistent with Proposition 64: Section 34019.f.1. (K) which outlines, "Funds shall be allocated to counties based on demonstrated need, including the number of youth in the county, the prevalence of substance use disorders among adults, and confirmed through statistical data, validated assessments or submitted reports prepared by the applicable county to demonstrate and validate need."
- There is precedent for opposition to prescriptive set asides for specific purposes related to Proposition 64. The Senate Budget and Policy Committee analysis of AB 844 (Burke), which put requirements on GoBiz pertaining to funds that are called out in, prop 64 to be used for referral services. Arguments in opposition included the Drug Policy Alliance which highlighted the bill "would limit the efficacy of the California Marijuana Tax Fund by creating a precedent of earmarking portions of grant monies for certain stakeholders, creating a de facto food fight over the revenue allocations."

Recommendation 2: The Department of Education must be considered equally for resource allocations

- Investment in education, prevention, and early intervention is essential to reduce drug abuse over time.
- Investments in programs that promote positive youth development² address the Risk Factors for Adolescent and Young Adult Substance Use and support the development of the Protective Factors for Adolescent and Young Adult Substance Use outlined in the Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health (p. 99 - 100).
- Proposition 64 section 34019.f.1.(A-N) outlines the importance of schools, and the education system as essential partners and implementers of Proposition 64 youth funds. This is consistent with the Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health highlights the effectiveness of "school-based programs that promote social and emotional competencies to reduce stress, express emotion appropriately, and

¹ Access the Surgeon General's Report on Alcohol, Drugs, and Health - <https://addiction.surgeongeneral.gov/surgeon-generals-report.pdf>

² Access Wested's Model of Positive Youth Development: Resilience in Action - <http://surveydata.wested.org/resources/YDfigure.pdf>

resist negative social influences. Because they focus on the entire population, universal interventions tend to have the greatest overall impact on substance misuse and related harms relative to interventions focused on individuals alone (p. 101) .”

- K-12 education is the largest youth-serving entity in the state of California and is well positioned to be an effective prevention and early intervention partner. Investment in the education and prevention workforce will be essential to maximize Investment in education and prevention strategies.
- The CDE administers expanded learning, early education and childcare, student assistance programs, and prevention programs. Such programs should be invested in as part of a cohesive strategy to support youth in communities most impacted by the war on drugs.