



For Immediate Release

4/30/2015

YUHSD applies for 21st Century Community Learning Center grant Approval will allow Vista High School & YPIC to offer more services to students, families

Yuma, AZ - Yuma Union High School District is submitting an application for the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant for Vista Alternative High School. The goal of the grant is for Vista Alternative High School to become a hub of service for its community.

The goals of the grant will be: to continue to prepare students for college and career success through continued support of student increase in reading and math skills, to offer Career and Technical Education tracks in Culinary Arts and Child Development, to support student transition from high school to college and career endeavors through a partnership with Yuma Private Industry Council (YPIC), and to increase family engagement by hosting weekly meetings to support learning in the home, and to connect families with local resources/service agencies.

"The opportunities this grant provides Vista students and families are significant. Our goal is to become a hub of resources and services for our families through a strong partnership with YPIC and other community agencies. Connecting our students and families to the community through authentic and relevant experiences is essential for personal and community growth," said Tamara Ray, Principal, Vista Alternative High School.

If awarded, Vista Alternative will be providing students with academic tutoring in reading and math 4 hours a week, and enrichment through the implementation of the CTE courses an additional 4 hours a week - the learning center will be open 4 days a week. Family engagement will be offered 2 hours each week and will include reading/math strategies for parents to help their students with homework, family literacy activities, and presentations from local service agencies including YPIC. Additionally, there will be a 3-week summer program continuing academic and enrichment activities.

Additionally, through work with YPIC, Vista Alternative High School students will be provided with volunteer opportunities to serve in the community.

"We are excited about partnering with Vista Alternative High School on the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant," said Patricia Ray, YPIC Operations Director.

Some of the services YPIC will support Vista Alternative students in are: parent classes, resume building and how to complete job applications, preparing for interviews, and dressing for success. YPIC will also assist in referring students to other local agencies for assistance.

"Yuma Union High School District is excited to apply for the 21st Century Community Learning Center grant to support both the academic pursuits of our Vista Alternative High School students while also being able to support their preparation for endeavors after graduation. Partnering with YPIC will allow us another layer of both college and



career support, as well as, allow Vista Alternative High School students to participate in - and give back to their community,” said Jessica Mickish, YUHSD Federal Programs Coordinator.

Learn more at: <http://www.azed.gov/century-learning-centers/>

Mission of 21st Community Learning Centers:

To assist 21st Century Community Learning Centers in building and sustaining comprehensive out of school time programs that provide high-quality academic enrichment opportunities for all children, and that meaningfully engage adult family members in helping their children succeed academically.

###

For more information please contact Tamara Ray at tray@yumaunion.org or Jessica Mickish at jmickish@yumaunion.org.