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**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
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Yolo County Housing Receives Grant for Youth Soccer League

Yolo County Housing (YCH) has received a \$10,000 Program Improvement grant from Sierra Health Foundation in Sacramento. The grant is a joint effort between YCH, the Woodland Coalition for Youth and Migrant Education. The agency is one of 10 grant recipients in the region chosen for funding to increase youth participation in quality programs through Sierra Health's REACH youth program. The grant will go to support the development of a youth soccer league that will connect residents of the YCH sites in Winters, Madison and Woodland to low-cost recreational opportunities. The three sites will form teams and compete weekly. Parents and coaches will support youth while they assist with the actual formation of the league by acting as steering committee members and team captains. The league will provide healthful recreational activity, supportive relationships with adults and peers, and meaningful opportunities for learning experiences.

"It's so important for our youth to have access to affordable positive out-of-school activities on-site, so that transportation needs do not become a barrier to participation," said Connie Gomez, Resident Initiatives Coordinator for YCH.

Yolo County Housing provides affordable housing opportunities to families throughout the County. Currently, YCH and its affiliates provide 431 conventional apartment units, own and manage another 54 non-federal apartments and duplexes, manage 154 migrant farmworker units in Yolo County, provide a maximum of 1,489 Housing Vouchers throughout the County and are partners in 112 affordable tax credit units. Housing units are located in Woodland, West Sacramento, Davis and in the unincorporated areas.

Through REACH, Sierra Health is committed to helping California Capital Region youth succeed by increasing participation in quality programs and activities, providing opportunities for youth to develop leadership and decision making skills, and helping communities take positive action for youth.

Sierra Health awards Program Improvement grants two or three times per year. Applications for the next grant cycle are due May 15, 2008. See www.reachyouthprogram.org for more information on REACH. For more information about Yolo County Housing, visit www.ycha.org or call (530) 669-2216.

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