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City of Gilroy, Recreation Department

Party In the Park Summer Series- A Three Day Event on Friday, June 6, Friday, July 11 and Friday, August 8, 2014

This event is a true multi-disciplinary collaborative effort, sponsored by Kaiser Permanente Gilroy Rotary, and the City of Gilroy, which includes partners such as the Youth Alliance, South County Collaborative, Kaiser Permanente, Gilroy Police Department, Gilroy Fire Department, District Attorney's Office, local social health-related and cultural agencies, local businesses, Gilroy Unified School District, faith based organizations, South County Youth Task Force, Santa Clara Department of Public Health, Santa Clara County Mental Health Department, San Ysidro Neighborhood Advisory Committee, Gilroy Gang Task Force, South County Collaborative, grass-root groups, Santa Clara County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services, and local volunteers.

The City of Gilroy had a critical need to play an instrumental role in addressing the issues and concerns which negatively impact Gilroy residents' overall health, lack of physical activity and use of public parks. Unfortunately, 49% of residents in the San Ysidro Park neighborhood live at or below 85% of the Federal Poverty Level. Also, 66% of Gilroy adults and 44% of Gilroy children are overweight or obese and trends show a continuous increase. Additionally, 14% of Gilroy adults report that they have been told by a doctor that they have diabetes, compared to 8% in Santa Clara County.

The development of a special event summer series where local community-based agencies, municipalities, public safety and law enforcement, as well as grass root organizations came together to share their expertise at a crime-ridden park, San Ysidro Park, is a true collaborative effort. Event participants, which included children and families from a high crime, gang and drug infested neighborhood, received knowledge, education and resources on healthy eating habits, physical fitness opportunities, healthy life style benefits, local community resources, public safety contacts and public park amenities, benefits and programs.

The goals of the Party in the Park Summer Series include:

- Encouraging children and families to visit their local park to stay healthy and active.
- Educating families of the park amenities and Youth Center programming located at San Ysidro Park.
- Convincing families that their local park is a safe place to gather, play and interact with others.
- Increasing access to healthy foods, knowledge of healthy cooking options and to promote healthy lifestyles.
- Facilitating healthy food preparation classes so families receive the tools necessary to easily implement positive practices in their daily lives.
- Providing physical fitness and cultural awareness options such as Zumba, Mixed Martial Arts, Crossfit, Aztec Dancing and Futsol.
- Encouraging family participation in organized activities and presentations such as Juvenile Jeopardy, Community Policing, and Santa Clara County Park efforts.
- Increasing children and families knowledge of local community and health resources available.
- Encouraging families to visit the community resource fair made up of local non-profit organizations.



Party in the Park Summer Series

Three Event Series:

Friday, June 6th **Fitness & Nutrition Day**

Friday, July 11th **Public Safety & Crime Prevention Day**

Friday, August 8th **Community Resource Day**

6:00 - 9:00 PM, San Ysidro Park, 7700 Murray Avenue, Gilroy

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