
CHARACTERISTICS OF A HEALTHY COMMUNITY

- Children and youth are a top priority.
- All citizens have responsibility for children and youth.
- The community is committed to building family strengths.
- The community 'wraps its arms' around teenagers.
- The community shares and demonstrates in concrete ways basic values, such as responsibility, respect, honesty, justice, and equality.
- The community maintains clear and consistent policies on alcohol and other drugs that are actively put into practice.
- The community maintains clear and consistent policies on gangs and violent behavior that are actively put into practice.
- There is a rich variety of school-based, community, and religious organizations that involve most youth.
- Mentoring is widespread (youth-to-youth and adult-to-youth).

ATWATER CARING ABOUT KIDS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

1401 Broadway Avenue
Atwater, CA 95301-3546
(209) 357-6100

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HISTORY

The Atwater Caring About Kids Community Council is a non-profit organization formed in the spring of 1990 by a coalition of individuals representing education, law enforcement, health agencies, business, clergy, and parents.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Atwater Caring About Kids Community Council is committed to the well-being of Atwater's youth and community by providing the coordination and leadership necessary for the prevention and reduction of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use, gang involvement, and the promotion and maintenance of a safe and healthy environment.

GOALS

- To encourage positive community norms and standards.
- To provide a forum for discussion of issues related to the well-being of Atwater's youth.
- To facilitate the transformation of the community for the benefit of youth by collaborating with community, schools, families, and agencies.
- To reduce specific risk factors contributing to alcohol, tobacco, and drug use and related behavioral problems among youth.
- To develop strategies and resources that nurture healthy lifestyles and relationships among youth.

ACTIVITIES

The Council works with other local organizations committed to the well-being of Atwater's youth to provide coordination, leadership, and support to a number of local programs. A few examples are:

- *AESD Coat & Shoe Banks*
Collection, cleaning, and distribution of coats and purchasing shoes for children.
- *HELP*
Adolescent Recovery & Educational Services, including on-site drug and gang counseling at local middle and high schools.
- *Red Ribbon Week*
School/community activities to increase alcohol, tobacco, and drug awareness and refusal skills.
- *School Resource Officer (SRO) Program*
Helps support placement of officers in schools with the goal of creating and maintaining safe educational environments.
- *Atwater Police Activities League (PAL)*
Supports PAL activities throughout the city, such as Youth Leadership Council, Junior Giants, and Police & Fire Department Explorers.
- *Sober Grad Night*
Supports annual Sober Grad Night for local high schools.
- *Counseling & Self-Empowerment Resources*
Accessed through Children-In-Crisis (CIC) Services.
- *Tattoo Removal*

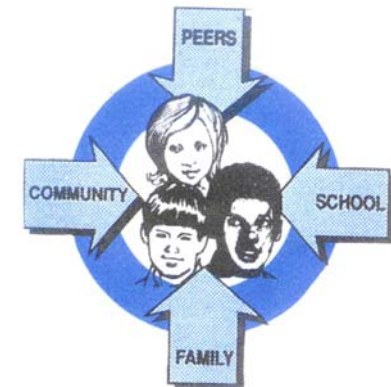
MEMBERSHIP

Community participation is the only way to make the Council work. Your membership is welcomed. Contact the Atwater Elementary School District at (209) 357-6100 for more information.

MEETINGS

The Council meets on the third Thursday of the month as set by the Board of Directors at the first meeting of the fiscal year. Meetings are held at:

Atwater Elementary School District Office
1401 Broadway Avenue
Atwater



(Revised November 2006)
