

NEWS RELEASE

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11th Annual PHAST (Protecting Health and Slamming Tobacco) Youth Coalition: Tobacco Slam Training

The Stanislaus County Office of Education Prevention Programs Department, in partnership with the Stanislaus County Health Services Agency, Memorial Medical Center, Truth Initiative, California Youth Advocacy Network, STAKE Act and Prevention Plus, will host the **11th Annual PHAST Tobacco Slam Training on Tuesday October 4, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** at the **Martin Petersen Event Center**, (720 12th Street, Modesto).

The keynote speaker this year will be Ray Lozano, a certified Prevention Specialist and Alcohol & Drug Counselor. Lozano's presentation is titled "Removing the Smokescreen." He will discuss the dangers associated with tobacco, e-cigarettes and marijuana use and highlight the impact of each product on a person's body and in their life. He will also motivate students to go out and inspire change within the community. According to organizers, Lozano has a presentation style similar to a comedian, and will use his humor and knowledge to share information to help educate students on the dangers associated with tobacco, e cigarettes and marijuana use.

More than 250 students from 25 high schools in Stanislaus County will attend a variety of workshops including: High Expectations (marijuana prevention information); #TBT – Throwback Tobacco; Using the power of social media to create change in our community; Creating thought provoking anti-tobacco PSA's; E-cigs are no game show; and Expanding their reach with youth advocacy.

Participating high schools include Ceres, Central Valley, Denair Charter, Patterson, Del Puerto, Roselawn, Turlock, Pitman, Oakdale, Riverbank, Adelante, Orestimba, Beyer, Downey, Enochs, Johansen, Modesto, Elliot, Gregori, Davis, Valley Charter, Sentinel and Waterford.

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