



## **PRESS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release  
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### **PAJARO VALLEY PREVENTION AND STUDENT ASSISTANCE (PVPSA) RECEIVES FUNDING FROM THREE GOVERNMENT GRANTS**

**Watsonville, CA** – The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors approved two funding proposals from Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance. The first proposal approved will support the implementation of the Functional Family Therapy evidenced based approach, while the second will aid in the expansion of PVPSA's Seven Challenges Program, an alcohol and drug evidenced based curriculum for youth. These approved proposals total \$153,000 per year, for the next three years.

The Watsonville City Council also recently approved \$25,000 per year for two years to PVPSA for the expansion of their alcohol and drug intervention services, as a result of the Measure M Cannabis Tax which was passed last November. This award will also aid in the re-establishment of low cost mental health clinic for adults.

"The expansion of our services through funding like this allows us to increase the amount of services for Pajaro Valley youth and their families.", stated Erica Padilla-Chavez, Chief Executive Office for Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance.

PVPSA's mission is to improve the quality of life of the students and families of the Pajaro Valley by providing health education, counseling and prevention services, and by advocating for public policies that protect the health of our community. 6,820 children are served by PVPSA annually, with over 525 parents and caregivers receiving parental education and support.

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