RUHS-Public Health receives grants to encourage young motorists to improve driving habits

Riverside County health officials have been awarded two grants totaling $270,000 to encourage young motorists not to drive when drunk, distracted or drowsy.

The Be Wiser Youth Traffic Safety Project funding ($170,000) will be used at 12 middle and high schools throughout Riverside County for education and training, according to Rebecca Antillon, RUHS-PH program coordinator, who oversees the grants. Public Health officials will also encourage youngsters to promote safety among their peers and educate parents on the dangers of unsafe driving practices.

The College Community Against Drugged, Drunk and Distracted Driving funding ($100,000) will be used at four college campuses in western Riverside County.

“Young people are the future and it is important they are protected through education and training when they get behind the wheel,” said Kim Saruwatari, director of RUHS-PH.
Funding is administered by RUHS-PH and provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

To learn more about the Injury Prevention Services Program, visit www.rivcoips.org