

**Gautho, Julia**

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**From:** Woodmansee, Chloe  
**Sent:** Monday, October 6, 2025 4:01 PM  
**To:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Funding Request for United4Youth Youth Leadership Programs in Capitola  
**Attachments:** Letter to Capitola City Council .pdf

Honorable Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached letter from United Way of Santa Cruz County.

Thank you.

**Warmly,**

**Chloé Woodmansee (she/her)**

Assistant to the City Manager - City of Capitola

831.475.7300 x220



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**From:** Pamela Velazquez <pvelazquez@unitedwaysc.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 6, 2025 3:16 PM  
**To:** Woodmansee, Chloe <cwoodmansee@ci.capitola.ca.us>  
**Subject:** [PDF] Funding Request for United4Youth Youth Leadership Programs in Capitola

Hi Chloe,

I hope you are doing well! Please see my attached letter to the city council requesting funding for United4Youth. Please let me know if there are any additional questions.

Best,

**Pamela Velazquez Janusz | Director of Community Impact**

*Pronouns: (she, her, hers)*

United Way of Santa Cruz County  
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Capitola, CA 95010  
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**UNITED WAY**  
Santa Cruz County

October 6, 2025

Dear Mayor and Members of the Capitola City Council,

My name is Pamela Velazquez, I am the Director of Community Impact at United Way Santa Cruz County, and I am writing on behalf of United4Youth, our countywide initiative that unites youth-focused programs to uplift youth voice, expand access to resources, and champion youth well-being. United Way also serves as the fiscal sponsor for Cradle to Career, a separate agency. A fiscal sponsor is a nonprofit organization that agrees to provide administrative and financial oversight for a project or group that does not have its own tax-exempt (501(c)(3)) status. Funding allocated to Cradle to Career does not support United4Youth programs; this grant request is exclusively for United4Youth initiatives, including youth leadership, wellness, and civic engagement programs in Capitola and separate from Cradle to Careers request.

Our request for funding is to continue the Youth Liaison program in Capitola, which connects youth to city leadership, civic engagement opportunities, and peer education initiatives. Funding will also support key programs that directly benefit Capitola youth:

- **Jóvenes Sanos (JS)**- A youth leadership program at Soquel High School that reduces mental health stigma and promotes wellness through peer education and advocacy.
- **Youth Action Network (YAN)** - Engages youth and adults in civic leadership, including Youth City Liaisons who serve as direct connections between Capitola youth and the City Council.
- **Youth Participatory Action Research (Y-PAR)** - Empowers youth to investigate community issues and develop solutions grounded in their experiences.

United4Youth provides youth ages 14-18 in Capitola with meaningful opportunities to lead initiatives, promote wellness, and actively contribute to their community. Youth Liaisons strengthen city engagement, facilitating youth participation in civic decisions and amplifying their perspectives. Jóvenes Sanos allows youth to lead peer wellness programs, while Y-PAR equips youth to conduct research and develop evidence-based recommendations for decision-makers.

With continued support, United4Youth ensures Capitola youth gain measurable leadership experience, actively participate in civic initiatives, and influence local programs and policies that enhance community well-being. Your investment in the Youth Liaison program is a direct investment in the future leaders and engaged citizens of Capitola.

I humbly request that you reconsider your original recommendation and fund United4Youth and Cradle to Career. Thank you for your consideration and commitment to the next generation of community leaders.

Sincerely,

Pamela Velazquez  
Director of Community Impact, United Way of Santa Cruz County  
[pvelazquez@unitedwaysc.org](mailto:pvelazquez@unitedwaysc.org)

***We ignite our community to give, advocate and volunteer so that our youth succeed in school and life, our residents are healthy and our families are financially independent***