

## YOUTH AND SENIORS

### ■ CONTEXT

Currently, there are a number of facilities that serve youth and seniors within the City of Merced and programs offered other public and private entities.

### ■ GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

#### SUSTAINING THE COMMUNITY'S YOUTH AND SENIORS

##### Goal

A community that contains a broad base of facilities and programs that support the special needs of its youth and seniors.

##### Objective

**PYS 1.0** To develop adequate facilities to serve the Community's youth and seniors.

##### Policies

**PYS 1.1** Work with youth and senior program providers to develop facilities within the University Community. These should be located in the Town Center and Residential Village Centers to maximize access by local residents and benefit from the presence of other public and community uses. Opportunities to consolidate or share facilities with other service providers, schools, parks, and other organizations should be pursued for efficiency and to minimize costs. *(Imp 2.5, 3.5)*

**PYS 1.2** Consider the development of an intergenerational facility for youth and senior activities. *(Imp 2.5, 3.5, 4.8)*

**PYS 1.3** Encourage the development of special facilities to serve the needs of seniors in Community parks. *(Imp 2.5, 3.5, 4.8)*

**PYS 1.4** Design youth and senior facilities to be accessible to persons of all ages and abilities. *(Imp 4.8)*

**PYS 1.5** Encourage major employers in the University Community to provide day care facilities on-site or in a location that is conveniently accessible by their employees. *(Imp 3.5, 5.10)*

**PYS 1.6** Promote the development of day-care facilities in the Town Center and Residential Village Centers. *(Imp 2.5, 3.5, 5.10)*

**Objective**

**PYS 2.0** To provide a diversity of high quality programs for the University Community's youth.

**Policies**

**PYS 2.1** Monitor the needs of the Community's youth population and work with local agencies, youth groups, teen centers, and other service entities to provide social, recreation, after school, summer, educational, cultural, and other programs to meet these needs.

*(Imp 3.5, 5.1)*

**PYS 2.2** Work with UC Merced to develop collaborative programs with Community service providers to implement programs that serve campus and Community youth and create youth/UCM student mentoring programs. *(Imp 3.3)*

**PYS 2.3** Encourage the development of programs to serve youth with developmental disabilities. *(Imp 3.5, 5.1)*

**Objective**

**PYS 3.0** To provide a variety of high quality programs for the University Community's seniors.

**Policies**

**PYS 3.1** Monitor the needs of the Community's seniors population and work with local agencies and organizations to ensure that a full range of programs, and services are provided to meet their needs. This may include social, nutrition, recreational, therapeutic, financial, health, and similar programs. *(Imp 3.5, 5.1)*

**PYS 3.2** Work with UC Merced to develop cultural, educational, recreational, health, and other programs and services for the University Community's seniors. Encourage the establishment of a program to use area seniors as volunteers, docents, or greeters for University events and/or programs. Seniors may also serve as in supporting staff roles. *(Imp 3.3, 3.5)*