

December 2, 2008

## STAFF REPORT

**MEMO TO: SUTTER COUNTY CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMISSION**  
**FROM: DEB COULTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
**SUBJECT: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL TO EXPAND BEAU'S BUDDIES LITERACY PROJECT**

---

**BACKGROUND:** The Commission approved \$77,100 in funding for mini grants at the February 2008 commission meeting. At the May 2008 Commission meeting mini grant applicants were approved for \$68,973 resulting in a savings of \$8127.00. At the May meeting the executive director discussed the possibility of expanding the Beau's Buddies literacy project to rural schools and stated she would provide the commission with a proposal at an upcoming meeting.

**CURRENT PROPOSAL:** It is the proposal of the Commission office to develop an expansion of Beau's Buddies Literacy Club to families in the Sutter County Schools district. This program would offer an evening workshop for families with Pre K and kindergarten children that would include instruction on literacy, the importance of reading to the child, importance of building a home library for the children, interactive literacy activities for the family, light refreshments, a visit from Beau and a book bag filled with age appropriate books that the family would take home. We would also offer information about Commission funded programs and have [sutterkids.org](http://sutterkids.org) available on a computer for families to view.

Also under consideration would be a return to the sites in the spring with additional books and information about summertime activities and water safety.

The program would work closely with Jeff Holland's office to coordinate the activities which would be school based.

**IMPACT ON COMMISSION RESOURCES:** Amount requested \$10,000.00

**RECOMMENDATION:** It is the recommendation of the Executive Director that the Commission approve the current proposal and include approved amount in FY 2008/2009 budget.

**POLICY ACTION REQUESTED:** Approval of this request.

DC:bd