

## Bankers group pledges funds to Boys & Girls Clubs

WRITTEN BY BUSINESS JOURNAL STAFF

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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF FRESNO COUNTY

The California Bankers Collaborative is pledging \$164,000 to fund an entrepreneurship training program through the Boys & Girls Clubs of Fresno County.

The two-year commitment to the Building Healthy Communities Youth Engagement Team will support the program in central, west and east Fresno, the CBC said.

“Youths in these low-income areas face hopelessness every day and often struggle in school,” said Diane Carbray, executive director of the local Boys & Girls Clubs. “We hope to inspire them, promote financial responsibility and independence and build the skills they need to succeed.”

The collaborative among California banks addresses issues of poverty affecting low- and moderate-income populations via community development.

Members include Rabobank, Bank of America, Bank of the West, California Bank & Trust, Citibank, Comerica, Schwab Bank, Union Ban, US Bank and Wells Fargo Bank.

The pledged funds will be used for curriculum materials, staff costs and other needs of the Money Matters program and the Be Your Own Boss initiative at the West Fresno, East Fresno, Sequoia Courts and Zimmerman Boys & Girls Clubs.

The youth engagement team will work with about a dozen other youth-serving groups to distribute flyers and coordinate transportation for participants.

In Money Matters, youths age 13 to 18 will learn how to create a personal financial plan, open and balance a checking account, what their higher education options are and more.

The Be Your Own Boss program will help youths develop entrepreneurial skills through creating their own businesses and making presentations to a panel of “financial backers” to win college tuition stipends.

The youth engagement team consists of the Boys and Girls Club of Fresno County, Youth Leadership Institute, The kNOw Youth Media, Center for Multi-Cultural Cooperation and Californians for Justice.