



Shasta County  
**Health & Human  
Services Agency**

## P R E S S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT AIMS TO REDUCE DUI OFFENSES AMONG YOUNG DRIVERS**

SHASTA COUNTY – Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is proud to announce it has been awarded \$242,193 from the California Office of Traffic Safety to reduce motor vehicle-related deaths and injuries. This safe driving grant will fund education focused on preventing alcohol and drug-impaired driving among young drivers. It will also include education aimed at distracted driving prevention and pedestrian safety.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 15- to 18-year-olds in the United States – ahead of all other types of injury, disease or violence. Novice teen drivers are twice as likely as adult drivers to be in a fatal crash. There were 3,255 teen drivers involved in fatal traffic crashes nationwide in 2017. Office of Traffic Safety Rankings for 2017 indicate that out of 58 counties in California, Shasta County ranked 25th in the number of alcohol-involved collisions.

HHSA will continue to provide teen traffic safety education through distribution of educational materials, educational campaigns, and social media messaging that focuses on youth driving safety and impaired driving prevention. Grant activities will include a social media contest and messaging to help young people consider the consequences of unsafe driving.

To find local resources and information about youth traffic safety, visit the DriveSoberShasta Facebook page. For more information on talking to teens about impaired driving, visit [www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/teen-driving](http://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/teen-driving). Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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