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Date 10:41 am, Nov 15, 2010



Fw: 4h funds
The BOSFIVE to: Cynthia C Johnson
Sent by: **Judi E McCallum**

11/15/2010 08:45 AM

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4h funds

Brad Reynolds to: bosfive

11/15/2010 08:01 AM

Dear supervisor, I know this morning that you are all meeting to discuss budget cuts. There are a multitude of wonderful services El Dorado county provides, but 4h is vital to the children of this community. It serves children of all kinds. I have 2 very different children, one with autism and one without such challenges. We moved to El Dorado county several years ago from Davis to provide our children with a more rural lifestyle, including 4h. We left a lot of services behind, but our son, the child with autism, is thriving in 4h as an officer and in his projects. We used to take him all the way to Sacramento to the MIND institute for social skills classes at \$300 per session. I looked at the MIND Institute's curriculum, and believe it or not, 4h provided 80 per cent of the same learning activities - leadership, working as a team, phone calls, public speaking, event planning, etc. Needless to say, the cost difference is astounding, and allows me to be able to stay at home to homeschool my son, which is vital, as well as have quality time with our family (because my husband does not need to work constantly to pay bills). Every one of us wants what is best for this community, and I know how hard this decision must be. We are all faced with difficult decisions everyday. Please remember you have a choice, and please choose to put children first. Thank you very much - Wendy Derish, wife of local fire fighter, mother of two wonderful 4h children