

HEALTH HUMAN SERVICES-HEALTH (HHS-CVHPI)

Supporting Organizations: California State University, Fresno, Central Valley Health Policy Institute

ACTIONS	STATUS	2009 - 2ND QUARTER REPORT
OVERALL WORK GROUP STAFFING REQUIREMENTS		
Plan, organize and manage all work group meetings; maintain work group records, agendas and minutes; coordinate meetings; evaluate effectiveness of implementation activities; maintain HHS portion of Partnership web site; provide monthly and quarterly reports.	O N G O I N G	
Goal 1: Develop comprehensive education and training systems to meet the healthcare worker shortage in the region.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Objective A: Establish A UC Merced medical school within 10 years.	IP	The Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School (Coalition) continues to discuss and plan development. Coalition initiated outreach campaign for 2009; first meeting held at Fresno State. A Community Listening Tour was throughout the region conducted to solicit feedback.
Work with UC Merced to identify and engage key leaders to champion effort.	C	The Coalition, whose leadership consists of several Partnership board members, initiated an outreach campaign in spring 2009 designed to educate and develop support among San Joaquin Valley community members (at a "grassroots level) about the need for a UC Merced medical school in the Valley and to engage them in the planning process.
Research the importance of the UC Medical School to the region.	C	Consultants with the Washington Advisory Group (WAG), which was retained by UC Merced, submitted a final report to UC Merced Chancellor Kang after reviewing background materials and meeting with numerous individuals on campus, at sister campuses, at the UC Office of the President, representatives from potential clinical affiliates in the Valley, academic planning partners at UC Davis and UCSF Fresno and leaders of the Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School.
Work with UC Merced, UC President and Regents to support 10-year time frame.		
Recommend an academic task force to guide program development and fund raising.		

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Objective B: Establish Central Valley Nursing Education Consortium.	C	The San Joaquin Valley Nursing Education Consortium was not funded in 2009, so no further activity has or will occur for now.
Coordinate with Hospital Council to implement the 2-year grant program.		
Goal 2: Enhance access to appropriate health care services and improved public health management.	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Objective A: Provide incentives for difficult to recruit health and medical professionals.	C	A health enterprise zone feasibility study resulted in regional community forums to select strategies to address health and medical professional shortages this past year. Legislation to support strategies that would allow federally qualified health centers and rural health centers to incentivize specialists to provide care to low-income and/or uninsured patients is an example of legislation that would increase access to specialists. Legislation to increase reimbursement to Valley physicians and specialists is strongly needed. Legislation to fund pilot projects that are designed to attract health professionals to underserved and rural areas is needed.
Identify and develop proposed changes in the Health Professional Shortage Area rules.		
Ongoing development of proposed changes in HPSA scoring methodology.		
Develop regionwide strategic plan for enterprise zones and financial incentives.	IP	
Support training efforts of allied health care professionals.		

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Objective B: Enhance public health management capabilities.		
Identify essential mechanisms for counties to share technical and professional services.	C	Data collection in the 8-county region that includes assessment and development of products specific to epidemiology resources and staff time, as well as a regional template for reporting (Data matrix) is done. A San Joaquin Valley data warehouse demonstration was done on May 15, 2009, to the Partnership for the Public's Health. This presentation will include Valley epidemiologists and data staff in the eight county health departments. The goal is to develop a system for staff to use the data warehouse.
Identify and evaluate opportunities to participate in state training programs.		
Identify needed changes in existing regulations and county polices regarding regional Public Health Laboratories.	NP	
Seek revision of licensure requirements for public health laboratory directors to align with national standards.	NP	
Objective C: Develop a regional plan to address the needs of the uninsured.	IP	CVHPI has worked with Valley health leaders to assess state and national health reform proposals and the impact on the Valley. An approach responsive to Valley needs has been developed. It is available at www.cvhpi.org and has been discussed on KVPT "What's Killing People in the Valley," and other media. In this quarter, Dr. Capitman and colleagues made two trips to Washington, D.C., to discuss health reform with the Valley congressional delegation and others.
Set standards and goals for project with Work Group.		
Apply for mini grant.		
Develop and implement a pilot for a regional consensus model to cover the uninsured.		

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<p>Objective D: Improve delivery of health care services through the use of information technology infrastructure and services.</p>	C/IP	<p>After completing a 2007-2008 study of telemedicine readiness, CVHPI is now working with providers around the Valley on a preliminary assessment of the impact of expanded access to telemedicine support services and technology.</p>
<p>Assess e-Health readiness.</p>		
<p>Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback encountered during the quarter</p>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dramatic external and political changes result in uncertainty about the future 2. Limited to no resources to support the Partnership work beyond current commitments 3. Need time to monitor current political activity before implementing further actions specific to this objective. 4. Securing state funding to help establish the planned medical school at a time when California is experiencing a more than \$40 billion deficit continues to be a challenge
<p>New funds leveraged during the quarter.</p>		