

Dates of Activity: July 2008 through September 2008
Seed Grant: **Methamphetamine Recovery Project**
Grantee Organization: **Central California Social Welfare Evaluation, Research and Training Center
California State University, Fresno Foundation**
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Description of Quarter's Activity/Impact on Partnership

- Two project coordinators have continued to conduct public meetings throughout the region, gathering community input about what works and what doesn't work, and how to improve community responses to the impact of methamphetamine and other substance abuse. Approximately 400 individuals have participated to date.
- The Advisory Council's quarterly meetings were held in Madera and Visalia on July 25, 2008 (rescheduled from June), and July 12, 2008. The July meeting included presentations by three Valley prevention/treatment organizations; the September meeting was a working meeting to conduct Advisory Council review of a preliminary outline of the final report being prepared for use by local, state and federal organizations, including legislative decision-makers.
Establishes the groundwork for legislators and community participants at local levels to continue working together to affect policy and resources specifically for the valley counties.

Planned Activities for next 3-6 months

- Project coordinators will finish all community meetings by Oct. 17, 2008. Information gathered at the meetings is being entered into a database for demographic and content analysis and reporting. The written report is being drafted, to be released via email by Nov. 7, 2008, for a 10-day period of review and comment by Advisory Council members and other interested parties.
- The Advisory Council's final meeting is scheduled for Dec. 15, 2008; the intent is to hold the meeting in the north Valley area and telecast it to a location in the south Valley. The final report will be presented at that meeting for adoption by the Advisory Council.

Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback

1. The public input process has proven to be very complex, both in getting meetings scheduled and in the broad variations in response groups and responses. Analysis of the information gathered is very resource-intensive; but preliminary findings clearly indicate that the resources and scope of this project will, of necessity, limit or exclude the participation of several vulnerable populations, such as non-Hispanic immigrant populations and incarcerated individuals.