

Welcome!

Building Healthy Communities

Grassroots Leadership Network

9/26 Information Meeting

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Healthy communities

“A healthy California involves more than the absence of disease. It is a state where community members and policymakers work together to improve health and health care, and there is respect for the experience and knowledge of the people who are the most directly affected by health disparities. It is a state where all Californians have a strong sense of self-worth and practice healthy lifestyles, where diversity is a source of strength for communities, where health problems are addressed promptly and effectively to minimize their consequences, and where prevention is a shared agenda and partnership is the norm.”

From The California Endowment’s vision of health.

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What makes a community healthy?

- Diversity, communication, integration & interaction – among community members and organizations – working toward solutions
- Transparency
- Community involvement
- Funds to educate people on health issues
- Cultural differences acknowledged and honored
- Community events/gatherings
- Crime and violence-free
- Trash free
- Pollution-free, clean environment
- Access to parks, open space and outdoor activities
- Sustainability and access to resources
- Economic stability
- Healthy youth
- Access to health care, health care for all
- Healthy diets and easy access to healthy foods
- Education (good schools and good teachers)
- Safety
- Jobs
- Transportation
- Tolerance (racism and hatred-free)
- Drug-free
- Extra curricular activities for children and youth
- Strong leadership
- Recycling
- Support for local businesses (products and services)
- Housing (affordable, clean)

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Why now?

- Equal Voices for Healthy Communities Campaign
- Need for increased collaborations for effective change – community members & community leaders
- Update Grassroots 10-point agenda with current community concerns
- **Raise working family issues in light of 2008 elections**
- Leadership empowering community

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Phases



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Community Dialogues

- Bring diverse voices together
- Have no preset outcome
- Facilitator is neutral
- Conduct over a period of time, same members stay through the end
- Geared toward action

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Host Locations

- Marin City
- San Rafael Canal
- South Novato (Hamilton)

The community at large is welcome. Differing backgrounds and viewpoints add value to dialogue

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Facilitators

Community Dialogue Facilitators (CDF's)

- 2 per area (stipended, trained)
- Work with GLN staff, BHC partners and planning committees
- Convene and work with community members and members of community organizations – develop partnerships, promote leadership

Timeframe

- **Planning & training** – present – April 2008
- **Community Dialogues** – April-June 2008
- **Joint community meetings and create collective agenda** - July-September 2008
- **Action forum to present findings** – October 2008

Why you?

- Partner in previous efforts – opportunity to strengthen our collaboration and reach
- Your constituency's voice is included, their issues are part of the conversation
- Your agency benefits from community members' input
- Share knowledge/capacity that can benefit the county at large
- Connect with organizations working with and for the community
- Together we are more effective

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How can you get involved?

- **Quarterly meetings 2008** – connect with community organizations and public officials, raise issues of concern to your constituency and the county, help with planning and provide strategic support
 - January 15th
 - April 22th
 - July 29th
 - October (TBD)
 - December (TBD)
- **Partner sign-up sheet** – many ways!

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Questions? Comments?

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Thank you!

civic engagement campaign

2007 equal vOices 2008

.....for healthy communities

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