



IDAHO OFFICE OF DRUG POLICY



August 2014



CONGRATULATIONS TO SPF GRANTEES
CADCA TRAINING DATES
BLOCK GRANT & SPF RECIPIENT TRAINING
PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT – Meet the Evaluation
Team



STRATEGIC PREVENTION FRAMEWORK GRANTS AWARDED

The Idaho Office of Drug Policy is pleased to announce it has awarded Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) Grants to 11 communities throughout the state! SPF grant funds will be used to implement community-level substance abuse prevention strategies and to improve local prevention infrastructure.

Please join us in congratulating the following coalitions on their award:

- Blaine County Community Drug Coalition, Hayley
- Bonneville Youth Development Council, Idaho Falls
- Drug Free Idaho, Boise
- Enough is Enough Coalition, Montpelier
- Kamiah Community Partners Coalition, Kamiah
- Lake Pend Oreille Safe and Drug Free Advisory Council, Rexburg
- Lapwai School District, Lapwai
- Madison County Community Council, Rexburg
- Meridian Anti-Drug Coalition, Meridian
- Salmon School District, Salmon
- St. Luke's McCall, McCall

CADCA TRAINING DATES

There has been a change to the CADCA Training Dates for SPF grantees. The dates are as follows:

October 20-24, 2014
January 12-16, 2015
April 27-May 1, 2015

More information about the training will be distributed directly to attendees.

BLOCK GRANT & SPF TRAINING

An online technical training on the **Idaho KIT Prevention System (KPS)** will be held on **Monday, August 25th, 2014 at 2pm Mountain Standard Time** for all **Providers/Grantees**. Anyone who needs to have access to the the system must participate in a training.

Register for the August 25th training by clicking the link below:

<https://student.gototraining.com/r/7089269805051033088>

Please Note: Providers/Grantees attending the August 1st training do not need to attend the August 25th training.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT – Meet the Prevention Program Evaluation Team

My name is Tedd McDonald and I am the lead member of a team of evaluation researchers at Boise State University's Center for Health Policy (CHP). Our team is working with the Office of Drug Policy (ODP) on several evaluation projects, one of which involves tracking a number of indicators in programs receiving Block Grant monies to support substance use prevention activities.

Starting this fiscal year, ODP is interested in doing more to assess program outcomes and identify areas in which it can help programs improve the ways they offer services. Our CHP team will assist in this process through the analysis of data collected by programs at the start (i.e., a pretest) and end (i.e., a posttest) of program activities. Analyses of these data will help



ODP develop a better understanding of how prevention programming is functioning at local, regional, and statewide levels, both within and across program models. It should also help ODP develop a better understanding of what could be done to help improve programming efforts in the future.

The procedure for data collection will be similar to what many programs have been doing for some time: Youth in a cohort will be given a pretest prior to program participation and a posttest after the completion of the program. However, programs will no longer be required to enter or track data on their own. Instead, program staff will simply take the pretest and posttest forms, which will be specially-designed "bubble sheets" (similar to scantron forms) and send them to a company ODP has contracted with to scan the data in and send the data to us at CHP. We will analyze the results and report them to ODP, as well as provide the analyses to each individual program.

We have developed a randomized, representative sampling plan that will require some programs to collect data on each cohort served, but others (particularly larger programs serving many youth) will only have to collect data on a subset of cohorts. ODP will communicate the requirements for each program in the near future.

I've been doing program evaluation for long enough to know that evaluation causes some level of trepidation among program administrators and staff. This first year may involve a learning curve in terms of collecting the data at the program level, but I think the value of the data that are collected and analyzed will be very helpful not only to ODP but also to individual programs. For example, most prevention programs rely on grants or contracts from external funding agencies, and having quality evaluation reports from a reputable research organization to support their effectiveness will hopefully assist your organization in soliciting future funds to support your activities. Our evaluation reports may also help you learn about whether or how you can improve your activities and your participants' outcomes. Thus, participation in these evaluation activities may ultimately prove very beneficial to you and your organization.

We on the CHP team look forward to working with you and your organization.

MISSION: The Idaho Office of Drug Policy leads Idaho's substance abuse policy and prevention efforts by developing and implementing strategic action plans and collaborative partnerships to reduce drug use and related crime, thereby improving the

health and safety of all Idahoans.

VISION: The Idaho Office of Drug Policy envisions an Idaho free from the devastating social, health, and economic consequences of substance abuse.



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