

HEALTH POLICY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

A unique opportunity for Valley leaders to increase their skills and knowledge to improve health in the region.

Program Goals

The Central Valley Health Policy Institute (CVHPI) is committed to facilitating the development of just health and health care policies and programs in the San Joaquin Valley. Current policy research and technical assistance priorities for the CVHPI include: access to health services in low-income and rural communities, environmental and socio-economic influences on health, and the capacity of health and social services to address health inequities. The Health Policy Leadership Program seeks to increase regional capacity to create and implement effective health and health care initiatives.

As a response to the increasing policy and service delivery challenges facing the San Joaquin Valley, the Health Policy Leadership Program emphasizes how our region can participate in the emerging fair health movement by understanding and addressing the **social and economic determinants** of health inequities. Participants will practice the application of this and other frameworks to collaborative community problem solving. Participants will learn how to engage others in exploring the wide range of socio-economic, cultural, political factors that determine how people live, work, and play together. Participants will become skilled at helping individuals and groups develop an analysis of how public policies influence how we live and our health. In this context, policies aimed at improving **air, water, and the built environment** and the relationships between these policies and health outcomes will be examined. The program adopts a life-span approach and has a special focus on the **health and well being of children and families**. Participants will develop a deeper understanding of the range of health and social policies that influence the health and other outcomes for children and families, while identifying opportunities for new community and regional initiatives.

Community-based organizations are key participants in building a healthier Central Valley and improving their effectiveness is a prime strategy for a fair health movement. With support from the Community Leadership Program we are offering full sponsorships to five small non-profit community-based organizations. These organizations may nominate two mid-career emerging leaders to participate in this program. Further, the selected CBOs will receive an additional stipend to support participation in training and costs associated with participant projects. As in prior years, some individual scholarships based on need are also available.

New this year: Through the support of the California-Pacific Center for Training (CALPACT), we are also offering five full sponsorships to Public Health and Safety-net organizations. The focus of the project for these participants will be capacity building in policy, program analysis and collaborative leadership.

Is This Program Right For You?

Regional leadership for health policy development and program implementation is most effective when it is inclusive. This program is designed for emerging leaders who have demonstrated potential to influence thinking and action around health and health care issues in the San Joaquin Valley. The program will convene 15-20 participants from diverse walks of life (health care, community organizations, advocacy groups, media, local government, public health, education, and business) and diverse personal backgrounds (age, gender, race/ethnicity, education, and role) from all areas and communities in the Valley.

As a participant, you will learn, with others, about the major health and health care policy challenges facing the San Joaquin Valley, such as ensuring access to high-quality and affordable health services for all residents, reducing health care disparities based on race/ethnicity, gender, and rural or inner city residence, and improving the integration of primary care and specialized services for elders and persons with disabilities. Participants will also learn cutting-edge approaches to health policy analysis and explore regional opportunities for improving the health of our communities. Program graduates will continue to have contact with previous cohorts for shared learning, mentoring new participants, and networking with other regional health policy leaders.

Participants need to have clear support from their sponsoring organizations that will allow full participation in the program. For individual participants, gaining new skills and insights in health policy leadership will require a strong personal commitment and active engagement in all program activities.

Program Overview

The Health Policy Leadership Program (HPLP) consists of:

- Nine one-day sessions (Fridays, 9am – 4 pm), beginning on June 17, 2011
- Completion of a small group or individual project
- Individual reading and writing assignments

Each session will combine presentations of data and discussions of theory, methods, and practice by program faculty with opportunities to interact with regional health care, public health, and public policy leaders.

Participants will also work in small groups to develop a policy or program analysis and recommendations. Small groups will be formed to include participants from specific areas in the region, specific organizations or shared interests. Group or individual projects will be recommended by the program facilitators or selected by participants. Group projects could focus on priority issues such as meeting the needs of the uninsured, improving the supply of health professionals, addressing environmental health concerns, or other topics. The details of the small group or individual projects will be worked out between HPLP faculty, the participant, and the participant's organizational sponsor.

The first day-long session will be held on Friday, June 17, 2011. Participants will receive a program manual that includes session outlines, and self-assessment guides at the first session. There will be reading and writing assignments to prepare before each session.

Faculty

Program faculty will be drawn from the CVHPI staff and faculty from the College of Health and Human Services at California State University, Fresno. Local, state, national, and international experts will do presentations and workshops to enhance the learning process.

Participation, Enrollment and Fees

- Applications for participation will be accepted from January 24 to April 29, 2011. Early applicants will receive priority for organizational sponsorships and individual scholarships.
- Individuals interested in participating will need to be nominated by an organization concerned with health policy and program issues in the San Joaquin Valley. The nomination must come from the sponsoring organization and should highlight how participation in this program will be useful for both the applicant and the organization. The application packet contains specific information regarding the nomination process.
- Program participants will be required to attend each day-long session and devote additional time (8-16 hours) to reading, writing, and projects each month.
- Organizations may nominate up to three people in each year and should indicate if they will work collaboratively on an agency-designated project.
- The applicant's supervisor(s) or other organizational representatives should also be willing to participate in two of the sessions (Session II, July 15, 2011 and Session IX, April 20, 2012).
- Along with a nomination letter, applicants will need to provide a resume or curriculum vitae detailing their education and work history and a brief statement about their interest in and commitment to the program.
- The fee for participating in the Health Policy Leadership Program is \$1,500 for Cohort VI. Full & Partial scholarships are available.
- Upon completion (attendance of at least 8 sessions and completion of project), participants will receive a Certificate in Health Policy Leadership, issued by the Division of Continuing and Global Education, California State University, Fresno. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and academic credit will also be available for an additional fee.

Program Locations

Program sessions will be held at The Central Valley Health Policy Institute in Fresno, CA.

Program Outline

Session I	Introductions, Leadership Model, and Health Policy 101 (June 17, 2011)
Session II	Health Inequities: Concepts, National Trends, and Central Valley Experiences (July 15, 2011)
Session III	Health Needs Assessment and Policy Analysis, Strategic Planning as Resource Mobilization, Group Project Design (September 16, 2011)
Session IV	Health Care Access: Financing and Provider Shortages as Access Barriers (October 21, 2011)
Session V	Population Groups and Health Policy: Children, Behavioral Health, and Eldercare (December 16, 2011)
Session VI	Multicultural Issues in Health Policy and Leadership: Managing Differences in Collaborative Problem Solving (January 20, 2012)
Session VII	Alternative Goals for Health Policy, Assessing Public Views on Health and Health Care, Values Alignment and Program Implementation (February 17, 2012)
Session VIII	Integrated Health Systems: Financing/Delivery Integration, Health Care and Social Service Integration (March 16, 2012)
Session IX	Class Presentations / Graduation (April 20, 2012)

Application Materials and More Information

For more information, please contact:

Sheng Her
Central Valley Health Policy Institute
1625 E. Shaw Avenue, Suite 146
Fresno, CA 93710-8106
559-228-2152 • shher@csufresno.edu

Funding of this program is provided by grants from:
The California Endowment, Community Leadership
Project, and California-Pacific Center for Training

