



CV CARES 101

The basic information that every member needs to know about the Concho Valley Community Action and Resources for Empowerment and Success (CV CARES) Coalition.

Vision Statement

Our dream is that through God's guidance, we unite our community, and create an environment that encourages the elimination of substance abuse, so that our children and families can thrive in a spiritual, moral, healthy, drug-free environment.

Definition

Co-a-li-tion: (v) “A voluntary, strategic alliance...to enhance [our ability] to achieve a common purpose by sharing risks, responsibilities, resources, and rewards.” – Himmelman

Brief History

The Concho Valley Community Action and Resources for Empowerment and Success (CV CARES) Coalition was formed in March 2007 when Bishop Michael Pfeifer called numerous community representatives to meet and discuss how to address the substance abuse problems in our community. From this initial gathering, the CARES group was established and began meeting.

Meetings

Steering Committee: Meets on the fourth Thursday of each month (see attached calendar) and has at least one representative from each sector as per DFC Grant (see other side). The Steering Committee was created to provide guidance and continuity for the coalition.

Action Focused Monthly Meetings: Meets on the second Thursday of each month (see attached calendar).

Quarterly Meetings: Meets quarterly (see attached calendar). Meeting will consist of a speaker, reports of progress, and Steering Committee announcements.

CV CARES Success Updates

Is an e-letter that goes out on the 5th and 20th of every month. Will have helpful links, member agency updates (in line with the DFC Strategic Plan), and upcoming events.



DFC 101

The basic information that every member needs to know regarding the Drug Free Communities Grant.

Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant

In August 2008, CARES learned they were awarded the Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant. The grant is \$125,000 per year up to \$625,000 over five years and the fiscal year began on October 1, 2008. The grant will allow ADACCV to provide guidance and direction towards the successful accomplishment of specific substance abuse prevention strategies and methods for the CV CARES Coalition. US Representative Mike Conaway presented the check to ADACCV on behalf of CARES on November 3rd. Julie Alonso is the Program Director and E. Angelina Osornio is the DFC Coordinator.

Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant Goals

GOAL 1: Establish and strengthen collaboration among communities, private nonprofit agencies, and Federal, State, local, and tribal governments to support the efforts of community coalitions to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth.

GOAL 2: Reduce substance abuse among youth and, over time, among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increase the risk of substance abuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance abuse.

Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant Purpose

Grants awarded through the Drug Free Communities program are intended to support *community-based coalitions*. Coalitions receiving DFC funds are expected to work within their “target” communities to identify and address local substance abuse problems. Coalitions should engage local leaders in an ongoing effort to better understand local challenges and to generate lasting change in the community. Coalitions are expected to develop and utilize *environmental strategies* based on a *community systems perspective* that views a community as a set of persons engaged in shared social, cultural, political, and economic processes.

12 Sectors

To comply with the DFC Grant, our coalition must have 12 sectors represented; they are as follows:

1. business community
2. civic & volunteer group
3. healthcare professionals
4. law enforcement
5. media
6. parents
7. religious or fraternal organizations
8. state, local, or tribal governmental agencies with an expertise in the field of substance abuse
9. school
10. youth (an individual under 18)
11. youth-serving organization
12. other organizations involved in reducing substance abuse