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California Partnership for the
San Joaquin Valley

April 22, 2010

Supervisor Jeff Grover
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors
1010 10th St., Ste. 6500
Modesto, CA 95354

Dear Supervisor Grover,

I am pleased to present to you the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley's 2009 Annual Report. This past year has proven to be challenging as we faced tough economic times; however, the efforts of the Partnership and its myriad of stakeholders have not gone unnoticed. Last year provided an even greater opportunity as organizations throughout our Valley and state collaborated and leveraged precious resources.

Throughout this report, it is evident that the 10 work groups of the Partnership demonstrated perseverance while striving toward the goals and objectives outlined in the Strategic Action Proposal; we are grateful for their dedication and service. There have been significant accomplishments which are highlighted throughout the report. We share these accomplishments with all our partners. Through the efforts of the work group consultants and conveners, partnering organizations, the Partnership Board and our public elected officials within the eight county region, we celebrate together and look toward another successful year.

The future of the San Joaquin Valley is promising. The Partnership is prepared to continue its efforts by aligning resources throughout the entire Valley and advocating with One Voice. Regional collaboration for a better Valley is a daunting challenge. Without people like you, the Partnership could not drive toward a stronger economy and quality of life for our community. Thank you for your continue support and willingness to collaborate; together we can create a better tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Mike Dozier, Lead Executive

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CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Annual Report **2009**



California Partnership for the
San Joaquin Valley

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CALIFORNIA PARTNERSHIP FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Annual Report 2009



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California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

December 2009

Dear Governor and Members of the Legislature,

On behalf of the board of directors of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership), we present the third Annual Report, which encompasses 12 months of Partnership activities. This report begins where our Annual Report of October 2008 concluded and covers Partnership activity through December 2009.

As we wrap up our third year, the Partnership has much to celebrate and even more to look forward to. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our board of directors, work groups, and other stakeholders, the Partnership has evolved into a strong and respected advocate for the San Joaquin Valley.

When the Partnership began in 2006, we were faced with the challenge of uniting the eight counties that for decades had competed against one another for resources, funding and commerce. Thanks to the work of the Partnership, today these jurisdictions are working collaboratively in an effort to improve the entire region's economic vitality and quality of life. Now, more than ever, Valley businesses, governments, nonprofits and community sectors are putting aside their parochial interests and instead focusing on larger regional issues that affect our entire Valley.

These efforts have not gone unnoticed in Sacramento. In December 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger issued Executive Order S-17-08, which extended the Partnership indefinitely.

This spirit of regionalism has resulted in the creation of organizations such as the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council. The Regional Policy Council is made up of representatives from the Councils of Governments for each Valley county and provides guidance on common interregional policy issues and also represents the Valley at public forums such as the California Transportation Commission.

The Regional Policy Council played an instrumental role in supporting the state's application for \$1.4 billion in stimulus funding for two "shovel ready" Valley segments of the much-anticipated high-speed rail project. The proposed route runs from Bakersfield to Merced and, while some counties are not immediate beneficiaries of the project, was unanimously supported by the Regional Policy Council—a crucial factor in getting the California High-Speed Rail Authority to include the entire line in the grant application.

The Partnership board would like to thank the Secretariat staff at California State University, Fresno, as well as the staff of the Great Valley Center, and all those interested and engaged residents of the Valley who have participated in this regional effort to make our future stronger.

Thanks are due to local and regional agencies, nonprofits, and those in the private sector which have given support through in-kind and financial contributions. These include the sponsors who made the 2009 Annual Summit such a success: City of Fresno, Valley Clean Air Now, Kaiser Permanente, Rabobank, San Joaquin Valley Winegrowers Association, Maverick Marketing, Bouquet of Fruits, Wawona Frozen Foods, AT&T, Apropos for Flowers, The Fresno Bee, The Bakersfield Californian, and Origami Foods.

We'd also like to thank the Councils of Government from Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties. The Partnership's mission would be greatly compromised without their financial support, collaboration and dedication.

Of course, we would be remiss without thanking the people who make up our 10 work groups. Their expertise, advocacy, and devotion resulted in some incredible achievements for the Valley.





Finally, we thank the grantees who received Partnership seed grant funding and implemented these new programs and efforts in accordance with the Strategic Action Proposal. They made the most out of limited funding and produced significant achievements in a number of areas.

The Valley is as vast as it is diverse. We are 3.9 million people from varying backgrounds living in 62 cities across eight counties. While we are different in so many ways, when it comes to issues facing the fertile ground that we call home, we are one Valley.

Mike Chrisman
Partnership Chair
Secretary
California Natural Resources Agency

Fritz Grupe
Partnership Deputy Chair
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
The Grupe Company

Ashley Swearengin
Partnership Deputy Chair
Mayor
City of Fresno





California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

December 2009

Dear Governor and Members of the Legislature:

As our San Joaquin Valley is facing difficult economic times, it has become more critical than ever before that we continue regional collaboration. Through the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership), the public and private sectors are driving toward improving the quality of life for our residents. We are now in Year 3 of the vast and multifaceted 10-year Strategic Action Proposal and much has been gained through its implementation. Most importantly, new alliances have been developed and have proven most impactful. To achieve success, it requires the joint efforts and contributions from a myriad of community and business leaders, government officials, educators, policymakers and residents from all eight counties. With this astounding synergy, forward progression continues and, consequently, the Valley benefits.

Throughout this annual report, it is evident that the Partnership is taking a bold and innovative approach to a variety of old and emerging challenges. We are seeing an increase in businesses considering relocating to the Valley. We have made significant strides in high-speed rail, which will connect the north and south Valley counties; developed a groundbreaking water management plan framework that will assist in providing a reliable source of water to the Valley for the next 50 years; provided methamphetamine education, treatment and recovery programs; expedited the plan to open a medical school at University of California, Merced; and opened six telemedicine sites in rural areas. All of these milestones were achieved by multiple organizations and participating individuals working together toward a shared vision, a Valley vision.

It also is imperative to recognize that this progress has not been made as a result of spending significant amounts of money. The Partnership has operated on a modest investment from the state—\$5 million in the FY 2006-09 budget, half of which was used as seed funding for 14 projects as directed by the Strategic Action Proposal. The seed grant projects, in turn, have leveraged more than \$5 million in nonstate funding, meaning the state's investment has helped raise significant private sector funding for these worthwhile projects. The seed grant funds were fully expended by the end of the contract period, December 31, 2008, with all 14 projects accomplishing stated goals.

Nurturing sustainable development efforts is a common thread throughout Partnership activity; the Valley's economic, environmental and social equity issues are woven together, creating an interrelated system. This unmistakable dynamic is why the regional approach is effective and must persist. Almost all of the issues we face do not recognize jurisdictional boundaries. Water, air, transportation, education, energy, housing, economic and workforce development—all cut across city and county lines and need to be addressed from a regional perspective. Through a consensus-building process, the Partnership has become an assembly that permits the Valley to problem-solve together and speak with a unified voice to elected officials and policymakers.

Repeatedly, parochial interests are being set aside to pursue regional interests. It is important to highlight these tangible successes, a result of our collaborative approach:

- All eight counties agreed on the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Framework—a resolution to develop a shared vision for reliable water supply for the entire Valley that protects water quality and reliability.
- At the request of the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency (BTH), seven of the 10 Partnership work groups prepared a Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan (Plan) for the San Joaquin Valley. The purpose of the Plan was to identify projects and programs that can be immediately initiated (“shovel ready”) to maximize the impact of the funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).
- The Partnership worked with the Regional Policy Council to support the state's application for \$1.4 billion in stimulus funds for two Valley high-speed rail segments.





- The Partnership, in conjunction with other Valley jurisdiction and housing agencies, formed a regional consortium in an effort to seek \$193 million in Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 (NSP-2) funding provided through ARRA funding. This collaborative effort involved nine agencies and jurisdictions along with more than 25 partners to leverage public and private funds and maximize resources to tackle one of the nation's most distressed housing markets in an already economically depressed region.

These accomplishments are not the Partnership's alone and, therefore, we do not celebrate them alone. We have the privilege and benefit of partnering with passionate individuals whose work ethic and dedication for the Valley is the driving force toward improving our region on multiple fronts. We have experts and volunteers investing their time and talents through the Partnership's 10 work groups, its 14 seed grant projects, and other Partnership-related entities, and they are truly making a difference. Thanks to their efforts, the promise of the Partnership is being fulfilled in communities throughout the Valley.

Even though the initial grant that launched the Partnership has come to a close, the Partnership continues. Two grants awarded in November 2009 will ensure the continuance of the Partnership's work. Moreover, we will be working to establish a sustainable funding plan for the Partnership, one that will allow for full implementation of the 10-year Strategic Action Proposal. Changing the economic future and overall well-being of the Valley is our primary focus. With the support of our partners and embracing regional collaboration, our vision for our Valley will come to fruition.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Dozier', is positioned above the typed name.

Mike Dozier, Secretariat
Office of Community and Economic Development
California State University, Fresno



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Introduction

Executive Summary

The 2009 Annual Report of California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) is the third in a series of annual reports to the governor, the legislature and the public to track the performance and progress of the Partnership in its efforts to improve the quality of life for the residents of the San Joaquin Valley (Valley). The purpose of this report is three-fold: 1) To offer public record and transparency of the Partnership's activities; 2) To hold the Partnership, its work groups, and its stakeholders accountable for achieving the goals set forth in the Strategic Action Proposal (SAP); and 3) To provide measurable results of the Partnership's efforts toward achieving these goals.

The report outlines the Partnership's activities from October 2008 through December 2009; this includes several components such as the progress achieved by each of the Partnership's 10 work groups along with final reports of their assigned seed grants. Another facet is the administration report that features the integral role of the Secretariat and its functions, such as ongoing communications and outreach, the Annual Summit, legislative activities, fiscal and grant management and sustainability.

In an effort to measure the impact of these activities, an update on 16 economic indicators and an analysis from the Partnership for the Assessment of Communities research team is included; it provides a quantitative and qualitative perspective of the Valley. Such an assessment acts as a compass for the Partnership so it may adapt and evolve strategy as needed.

Embracing change, confronting challenges, and collaborating as a region were key themes for the Partnership as it entered its third year working toward the goals outlined in the SAP. When the 2008 elections altered political landscapes on the regional, state, and local levels, the Partnership provided a unifying voice for the Valley's eight counties, advocating the region's needs to leaders in Sacramento and Washington D.C. Numerous examples of regional collaboration and significant accomplishments can be found throughout the report. The 2009 Annual Report provides evidence of how the Partnership has brought together public and private leadership to drive measurable action toward the vision of the San Joaquin Valley as California's 21st Century Opportunity.



History of the Partnership

Set in motion in June 2005 by an executive order from Governor Schwarzenegger, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley is an unprecedented public-private partnership sharply focused on improving the region's economic vitality and quality of life for the 3.9 million residents who call the San Joaquin Valley home.

With Executive Order S-05-05, Governor Schwarzenegger addressed the unique challenges facing the Valley as well as the region's importance to California, and he founded the Partnership. While the Valley is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world, the economic well-being of its residents lags well behind state and national averages. The Valley also is affected by poor air quality that has repeatedly failed to meet EPA standards. Despite these challenges, the Valley received substantially less per capita funding than the averages for California and the United States.

For too long, state and federal leaders had neglected the Valley. The creation of the Partnership was designed to address the region's challenges while establishing a solid framework for the future.

As part of Executive Order S-05-05, Governor Schwarzenegger requested from the new Partnership a Strategic Action Proposal (SAP) that provided recommendations to improve the economic conditions of the Valley. In October 2006, the group delivered its recommendations in the document: "The San Joaquin Valley, California's 21st Century Opportunity."



The SAP developed three overarching goals for the Valley: to develop a prosperous economy, create a quality environment, and to achieve social equity.

In support of these goals, the Partnership developed 10 work groups made up of stakeholders from public and private sectors. The purpose of these groups was to support the Partnership’s mission by creating and fostering a culture of leadership, action, and accountability. More specifically, the work groups were tasked with the following six initiatives:

- Build a 21st Century Transportation Mobility System
- Grow a Diversified, Globally Competitive Economy Supported by a Highly Skilled Workforce
- Create a Model K-12 Public Education System
- Develop High-Quality Health and Human Services
- Attain Clean Air Standards
- Implement an Integrated Framework for Sustainable Growth

In November 2006, Governor Schwarzenegger renewed the Partnership and implemented the SAP with Executive Order (S-22-06). The Governor, along with the Legislature, provided \$5 million to begin this unprecedented regional effort.

After two years, the Partnership had made significant progress toward its goals (see Accomplishments, Section 3). As a result, in December 2008, the Governor extended the Partnership indefinitely through Executive Order (S-17-08), an extension of the terms set forth in Executive Order (S-22-06).

Vision

The San Joaquin Valley will be a **cohesive region** composed of unique communities and a diverse population supported by a **vibrant economy** built on competitive strengths and **sufficient resources** to provide a **high quality of life** for all residents now and in the future.



A Year in Review: Highlights of Accomplishments

In its third year, the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) continued to make great strides in accomplishing the goals set forth in the 10-year Strategic Action Proposal (SAP).

Stakeholders from throughout the San Joaquin Valley (Valley) banded together to rally behind a number of initiatives beneficial to the region. Among the more notable of these were the combined efforts of the Partnership and the regional transportation planning agencies to ensure that a high-speed rail system serves the needs of the entire Valley.

The Partnership worked with Valley stakeholders through the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, to support the state's application to the Federal Railroad Administration for \$1.4 billion in funding for two Valley segments that met qualifications for design/build work under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) High-Speed Rail application requirements. Valleywide agreement and advocacy on this project was crucial to successfully getting the High Speed Rail Authority to include the entire Merced to Bakersfield line in the grant application.

Additionally, the Partnership, in conjunction with other Valley jurisdictions and housing agencies, formed the San Joaquin Valley NSP-2 Consortium in an effort to seek \$193 million in Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 (NSP-2) funding provided through ARRA. Applying for these funds required immediate, collaborative action between several groups, which would not have been possible without a regional organization such as the Partnership.

Another noteworthy accomplishment this year includes the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Framework, supported by the Water Quality, Supply and Reliability Work Group, upon which all eight counties agreed. This resolution developed a shared vision for a reliable water supply for the entire Valley that protects water quality and reliability.

Through the Partnership work groups, numerous other successes and advancements were made, including:

- Opening six telemedicine sites in rural areas throughout the San Joaquin Valley through the **Valley Telehealth Partnership**. *Advanced Communications Services Work Group*
- Launching the successful "Tune-In/Tune-Up" Program, which **reduced mobile-source pollutants in three rural cities**. *Air Quality Work Group*



- **Aggressively promoting Central California as an attractive business location** through various trade shows, trade missions, an e-newsletter, and a direct mail campaign. These efforts have helped to generate a substantial list of businesses that have expressed interest in relocating to the Valley. The Central California Economic Development Corporation played an instrumental role in these promotional endeavors. *Economic Development Work Group*
- Launching the VIEW Project, which **provides \$3 million in resources to help improve energy efficiency of communities**. *Energy Work Group*
- Passing resolutions supporting **completion of UC Merced Medical School by 2015 and enrolling 400 students in the college**. *Board of Directors and Health and Human Services Work Group*
- **Developing and marketing** www.careersinthevalley.com, an aggregate employment Web site offering job postings, training, and employment study information categorized by county. *Higher Education and Workforce Development Work Group*
- Developing a regional planning scenario that would significantly **reduce land development, consumption of farmland, and greenhouse gasses**. *Land Use, Agriculture and Housing Work Group as part of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint Process*
- Hosting 300 participants from nine counties at the Exemplary Practices Conference to **discuss the status of preschool planning and education in the Valley**. *PreK-12 Education Work Group*



Work Group Progress Reports

Overview

The California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley (Partnership) has assembled 10 work groups for the purpose of facilitating substantial improvements in the San Joaquin Valley (Valley) in these core areas:

- Advanced Communications Services
- Air Quality
- Economic Development
- Energy
- Health and Human Services
- Higher Education and Workforce Development
- Land Use, Agriculture and Housing
- PreK-12 Education
- Transportation
- Water Quality, Supply and Reliability

The work groups have two focus areas: to implement a 10-year Strategic Action Proposal (SAP) and to manage 14 seed grants. Where previous efforts to improve the Valley may have focused on one or two of the 10 core areas, the Partnership has committed to advancing goals and objectives in all 10 areas.

The progress achieved by the Partnership's 10 work groups was nothing short of astounding, especially given the monumental challenges that many faced. Financial hardships, political changes, and limited resources severely hampered many of the Partnership's efforts this year; however, thanks to the dedication and hard work of the work group participants, there was much to celebrate.

Without question, the most significant challenge facing the work groups was the lack of available funding. As California faced the worst economic crisis in decades, available funding for new and existing work group projects became increasingly difficult to obtain; fortunately, this was offset when the Partnership was awarded additional funding in November 2009.

Also, many efforts of the work groups were centered on ambitious, long-term projects (e.g., high-speed rail, a regional water plan, green energy) that involve significant regional planning. In such a down economy, it was often difficult to drum up regionwide support for these projects and develop plans beyond the status quo. This, too, was overcome in many areas as the region agreed to stand together on multiple fronts.

Through continuous efforts of uniting the Valley, the Partnership overcame adversity. It's important to recognize



that every project the Partnership is involved in is geared toward advancing the entire eight-county region and to support a myriad of Valley stakeholders. The Partnership continues to double its efforts toward developing a strong, cohesive bond across the region that will increase support for regional project advantages, even when they may not benefit individual cities or communities directly.



Advanced Communications Services

Mission: Facilitate the deployment and utilization of advanced communications services and information technology throughout the region.

Accomplishments for the Advanced Communication Services Work Group included completion of year three of the Pixley Connect Project—an effort to narrow the digital divide in rural California. This project brings telecommunications access, education and training to the underserved, predominantly Spanish-speaking community of Pixley.



This year, the program graduated 40 adults with the knowledge of basic computer and software use and 18 students in the areas of computer repair, troubleshooting and multimedia. The group also submitted an application for stimulus funds to expand the project to six sites throughout the Valley.

Also, the Valley Telehealth Partnership (VTP) expanded to six health-care facilities: Atwater, Merced, Oildale, French Camp, Reedley and Kerman. VTP is spearheaded by University of California, Merced and provides patients in rural areas with access to health specialists for real-time video consultations.

In January, UC Merced released its Telemedicine Readiness Evaluation for the San Joaquin Valley. This report describes the analyses used to identify and characterize the current needs and challenges of telemedicine in the region, suggests how some of the challenges in telemedicine readiness could be met over time, and identifies – by a ranking system for telemedicine readiness – participating health-care sites most associated with the likelihood of developing a sustainable telemedicine program.

Additionally, the Connecting Stanislaus Targeted Technology Training Initiative (T3 Program) provided training to more than 550 students throughout Stanislaus County. The program also dedicated labs to Modesto's El Concillio and Hispanic Leadership Council on behalf of Shackelford Elementary School on Crows Landing Road.

Before receiving training from the T3 program, 29 percent of student participants claimed a high to very high understanding of technology subject matter. After receiving training, that number increased to 74 percent.

Technology training is based on the notions that while computers have become prevalent for many, gaps in computer experience and training still exist for some. To address this deficiency, a series of computer classes were developed and offered to adults in Stanislaus County at no cost. The classes range from learning basic computer terminology and troubleshooting to Internet basics and word processing for beginners. Intermediate-level classes in spreadsheets, databases, and Web design are helpful to those preparing for more challenging work assignments. All adult county residents are eligible to participate in one, some, or all of the seven classes offered. Each class is designed to accommodate the demanding schedule of adult learners.



Future Priorities

- In conjunction with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), local government organizations, and state agencies, develop a primer document that will inform elected officials about the benefits of ubiquitous access to advanced communications services (ACS) and provide model policies and other tools to help facilitate employment.
- Convene representatives of the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC) and Broadband Institute of California to discuss the feasibility of a best practices guidebook.
- Work with CPUC, state agencies, and the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) to explore opportunities for cooperation and joint ventures to expand accessibility to underserved communities.
- Expand and replicate successful model programs and increase access to advanced communication services and information technology to bridge the digital divide.

"The Advanced Communication Services Work Group continues to make great strides in bringing modern day technology to the rural expanses of this great San Joaquin Valley. Our work group is succeeding in providing the underserved with the technological training necessary to compete in today's job market. The overwhelming success of the Valley Telehealth Partnership, which brings top-notch health-care services to even the most remote areas of the region, is a testament to the hard work and dedication of this work group and the Partnership as a whole."

Coke Hallowell
San Joaquin River Parkway
and Conservation Trust
Convener, Advanced Communications
Services Work Group

Seed Grant Report

Valley Telehealth Partnership

University of California, Merced \$250,000

The University of California, Merced surpassed its originally funded goal of implementing four eHealth Centers throughout the San Joaquin Valley, finishing the project with a total of six telemedicine sites. This achievement followed a survey process, funded by the California Emerging Technology Fund with support from the AT&T Foundation, to assess telemedicine readiness levels at 84 Valley health-care sites, resulting in the selection of the first six locations.

Of these first six Valley sites, three facilities are hospitals and three are outpatient clinics. Two of these facilities will play key roles in improving access to specialty care, as they are financially able to perform specialty consults with low-income patients via telemedicine. The ability to provide these consults is unique in the California health-care landscape, and more of these providers are critically needed to improve access to specialty health care in rural and underserved populations throughout the state. The remaining four sites will use telemedicine to access specialty care that is unavailable to their patients locally.

UC Merced also formed the Valley Telehealth Partnership (VTP) for the purpose of creating a long-term, supportive regional telemedicine networking community to allow new and existing sites to promote their programs and/or problem-solve among each other. The first open forum VTP meeting was held via video conference in December 2008 to discuss current project status, needs and concerns regarding telemedicine in the Valley. To assist sites between meetings, the following is under way: an evolving VTP Web site offering program tools, a calendar of events, and a telemedicine user directory.



Air Quality

Mission: Enable residents to enjoy healthy air by removing the adverse impacts of poor air quality and improving quality of life.

The Air Quality Work Group continued to make progress in providing San Joaquin Valley residents with cleaner air by supporting legislation, organizations, and transportation initiatives geared to reduce air pollution in the region.

The work group participated in the Diesel Incentives Exploration Working Group, meeting with businesses and environmental representatives in February in an effort to pursue additional programs and funding for incentives to reduce diesel emissions in the greater Central Valley.

The work group continues to support the passage and implementation of state and federal legislation that will bring additional clean air incentive funding to the Valley, including funding mechanisms included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The work group participates in meetings of the San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO), providing input as necessary and working closely with the Energy Work Group. Staff has provided government affairs support in the area of federal legislation on clean energy, including clean energy funding mechanisms such as the Energy Efficiency Block Grant Program and the State Energy Program.

The work group participates in a committee facilitated by the California High-Speed Rail Authority (HSRA) to pursue construction of the Altamont route connecting the Valley to the Bay Area on the high-speed rail. A preliminary project description has been prepared by the consultants and is under review by the HSRA. It outlines the general project location, the purpose and goals of the project, the planning context within which the project is being developed, and a description of the general location and anticipated design elements of the project.

Air quality issues were featured in 2009 broadcasts of “The Maddy Forum,” a radio program featuring conversations about important public policy issues facing Valley. A show addressing the Valley’s air quality aired in July.

The Air Quality Work Group was one of the seven work groups that supported the office of the Secretariat in completing the Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan—a list of shovel-ready projects eligible for stimulus funding. Work Plans were requested by the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency as part of a statewide effort to preserve and expand our jobs base, help

communities and businesses survive the global financial crisis and lay the foundation for economic recovery and sustained growth.

Future Priorities

The Air Quality Work Group has developed a lengthy list of future planned activities to meet the goals outlined in the Partnership’s Strategic Action Proposal. Highlights of these activities include:

- Continuing to pursue a “dual path” to clean air by seeking the commercialization of new technologies as well as incentive mechanisms that will assist the Valley in accelerating the attainment of clean air standards to be achieved by 2017.
- Continuing to work with the High-Speed Rail Altamont Working Group on efforts to build a high-speed rail system connecting the Valley.
- Continuing to monitor progress on California Air Resources Board regulations, such as Heavy-Duty In-Use Diesel Regulation and Assembly Bill 32—Greenhouse Gas Regulations, and analyzing for impact on the Valley.
- Work with members in the state legislature and Congress as well as White House Administration to bring focus to the needs of the Valley’s air quality challenges and to assist in addressing those challenges.

“The work of the Partnership has led to an extraordinary degree of agreement among stakeholders who initially held very diverse world views about the sources and solutions to our air quality problems in the Valley. We are now able to jointly advocate for solutions that would have been politically impossible in the past.”

Peter Weber
Representative, Federal
Interagency Task Force
Convener, Air Quality Work Group



Seed Grant Report

Air Quality Education in Environmental Justice Areas

The Maddy Institute \$250,000

The goal of this seed grant was to improve public understanding of air quality issues and solutions. A pilot project was created with the goals of reducing air pollution in the San Joaquin Valley by increasing the level of awareness in three “environmental justice” (EJ) communities among individuals, local governments and school districts, builders and developers, and selected lawn care equipment retailers, as well as fireplace and wood stove retailers.

EJ communities (a) are geographically diverse, (b) suffer the worst air quality, (c) have high unemployment and low median household income, and (d) have populations between 1,000 and 25,000 residents. Based on these criteria, the Air Quality Work Group selected Arvin, Avenal and Parlier as the three communities in the Valley that best fit this definition.

Seed Grant Goals and Accomplishments:

Goal #1: Reduce the number of high-emitting or gross-polluting vehicles through the Valley Clean Air Now (Valley CAN) “Tune In & Tune Up” program. Eligible vehicles received a \$500 repair voucher.

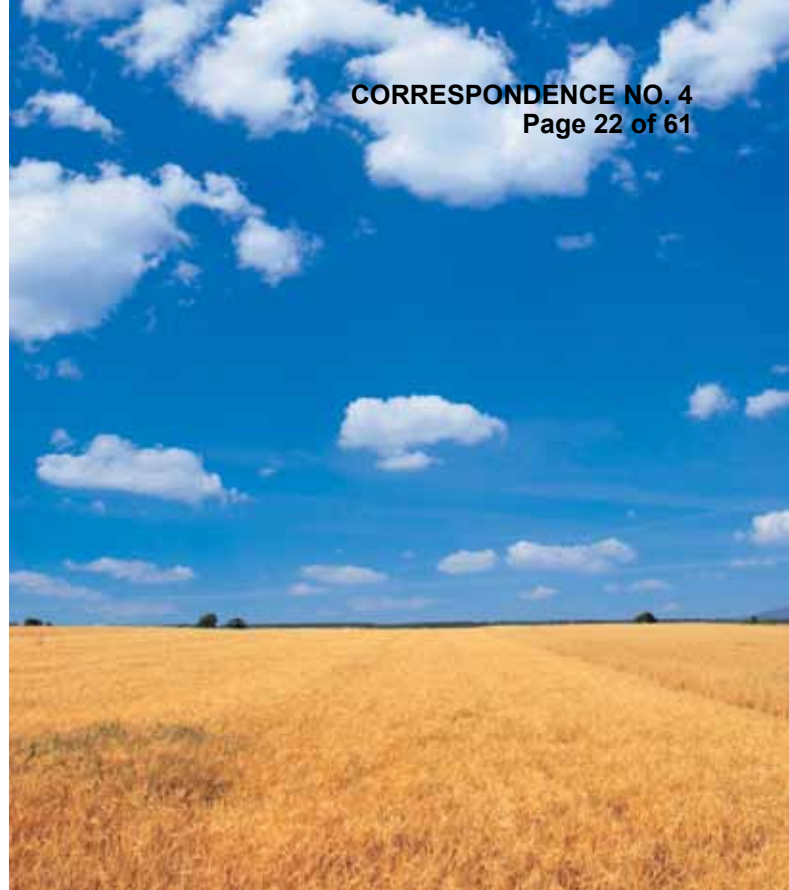
Accomplishments: As of December 2008, the last report of the seed grant, 650 of an eligible 749 vehicles (87 percent) had made appointments for repairs.

Goal #2: Inform stakeholders of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Air District) Indirect Source Rule (ISR), as well as provide information to local governments regarding the implementation of “clean air technologies” into local government operations and adding “air quality” as a scoring criterion on local government procurement contracts.

Accomplishments: Educational workshops were held in each city. Arvin’s “Greening Arvin” campaign has incorporated many green technologies and programs and was the model for the other two cities.

An electronic resource guide was developed at <http://greeningyourcity.wordpress.com/> and includes all of the relevant information that was discovered during the term of the project.

Arvin, Avenal and Parlier were registered as members of ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability. Each city will be able to access consultants who will provide technical



assistance, as well as analytical tools and methods to assist their local government entities in measuring emissions and reduction of greenhouse emissions in their jurisdiction.

Goal #3: Increase public awareness of the Air District’s Burn Cleaner Program, for fireplaces/wood-burning stoves, and Check Before You Burn Program.

Accomplishments: Community Focus identified five local fireplace/wood burning stove retailers, based on proximity to the three communities, their willingness to participate in the Burn Cleaner Program and their willingness to provide relevant information.

A working group meeting with local government, key stakeholders and community members was held May 19-21 in Arvin, Avenal and Parlier. Based on feedback from meeting participants, Community Focus was able to make recommendations to increase program participation in these communities.

Goal #4: Increase awareness of the Air District’s Lawnmower and Leaf blower Exchange Program.

Accomplishments: 62 organizations in Arvin, Avenal and Parlier were contacted, informed of the program, asked to help promote the program and sent a packet of promotional materials. The outreach effort resulted in a sale of three additional electric lawn mowers, a 60 percent increase from the prior year.



Economic Development

Mission: Implement creative and collaborative solutions to regionwide infrastructure challenges, focus on the growth of target industries with comparative advantages, and promote the region as a business and tourist destination.

In 2009, the Economic Development Work Group continued to play a vital role in bolstering the economic future of the San Joaquin Valley. To accomplish this goal, the group was tasked with a number of objectives ranging from strengthening infrastructure to fostering entrepreneurship in the Valley. Here are a few of the highlights from the past year:

Infrastructure

- Worked closely with each member county of the Central California Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) to compile a **list of projects in the Valley that may be eligible for federal stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.**
- Economic Development was one of the seven work groups that supported the office of the Secretariat in completing the Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan—a list of shovel-ready projects eligible for stimulus funding. Work Plans were requested by the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency as part of a statewide effort to preserve and expand our jobs base, help communities and businesses survive the global financial crisis and lay the foundation for economic recovery and sustained growth.

Advocacy

- Conducted **legislative visits** with leaders in Sacramento to discuss the needs and challenges of economic development in the Valley.

Marketing

- **CCEDC aggressively promoted Central California as an attractive business location** through various trade shows, trade missions, an e-newsletter, and a direct mail campaign. These efforts were further strengthened by a seed grant secured through participation in the Partnership and have helped to generate 450 new business contacts, 160 broker meetings and a list of 70 businesses that have expressed interest in relocating to the Valley. This has resulted in 560 new manufacturing jobs for the region.

Cluster Forums

- **Hosted two business forums** in the northern and southern Valley.
- **Entered 3,000 businesses** into the Executive Pulse software tracking system.
- Expanded **“Start, Run, Grow”**—an online resource providing businesses with a list of industry and service associations in their area. Available at www.valleybizconnect.org.

Entrepreneurship

- Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at California State University, Fresno, executed community college entrepreneurship programs and **established a Technology Development and Commercialization** unit to work with early stage entrepreneurs.

Renewable and Clean Energy

- Participated in forming the San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO). A representative from the work group sits on the board. Visit www.sjvcleanenergy.org for more information.



Future Priorities

Economic Development Work Group plans for 2010 are to build upon the successes of the past year and include continuing to pursue infrastructure funding by developing a regional strategy for economic development through the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), working with Valley counties to assess and rank potential infrastructure projects, and setting up a regional funding authority for infrastructure projects through the Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration.

Plans also include strengthening marketing efforts to position the Valley as an attractive destination for businesses in the logistics, manufacturing, agribusiness, renewable energy, and health care industries. Updated Web and print campaigns are planned, as well as outreach efforts (area tours, cluster meetings) with viable relocation candidates.

To continue fostering innovation and entrepreneurial ventures, the group plans to collaborate with California State University, Fresno, and University of California, Merced, on various programs and to create an “Entrepreneurship Fund” to support development of risk capital and incubators for startup businesses.

“The economic development corporations have a long history of working together to market and attract jobs to our region and working together with the Partnership has allowed us to increase the image of the region among new audiences and in new venues. This effort will continue to result in new jobs in the years to come.”

Paul Saldana
Representative, Central California Economic
Development Corporation
Convener, Economic Development Work
Group

Seed Grant Report

Central California Marketing and Cluster Development

Central California Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) \$225,000

The Central California Economic Development Corporation (CCEDC) is a regional marketing organization formed in the late 1980s to promote job creation and business retention in all eight counties of the San Joaquin Valley. In the past few years, CCEDC has undertaken a new branding and marketing campaign that has increased exposure to the Valley and brought businesses and jobs to Central California.

The seed grant proposed to assist the CCEDC in expanding its marketing efforts, which center on specific cluster industries that have great potential in the Valley (e.g., agribusiness, logistics, manufacturing, renewable energy, health care).

“Central California...Center Yourself” is CCEDC’s current campaign and is used in a dynamic mix of print and online media. The seed grant allowed the CCEDC to double its marketing efforts at important national industry trade shows. Broker trade missions to firms around the country have proven successful. So far, these marketing efforts have generated 70 community proposals for companies looking into a location, 12 site tours by companies looking for a location, and 560 new industrial jobs.

Building Angel Investment and Entrepreneurship in the San Joaquin Valley

Golden Capital Network Pacific Community Ventures Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Central Valley Business Incubator \$225,000

The seed grant proposed to provide education and training throughout the San Joaquin Valley to foster entrepreneurship, increase business capacity and knowledge, and increase the understanding of equity capital and how it is accessed.

The first deliverable was to build local private equity investment capacity, particularly at the stages between friends/family and later-stage private equity. The group developed www.businessascent.com, a Web site for startups to post video uploads and their executive summaries for angel investors. In addition, a number of seminars and forums were



Energy

Mission: Promote energy use efficiencies and adoption of clean, renewable energy technologies to ensure a reliable supply, grow the economy, and improve air quality.

The Energy Work Group continued to work toward a number of goals in 2009 to increase clean energy use and funding in the San Joaquin Valley. Its primary focus was to: 1) relay information to Valley stakeholders on clean energy-related funding opportunities through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), and forge partnerships and apply for funding; 2) conduct marketing and outreach activities; and 3) advance the scope and operations of the highly effective San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) and the Great Valley Center (GVC) Energy Program.

Notable 2009 achievements of the work group and its partner organizations follow:

- SJVCEO forged a partnership with the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Air District), which applied for energy block grants from the California Energy Commission on behalf of smaller Valley jurisdictions. Thirty-six jurisdictions joined this effort and are expected to receive close to \$4 million with reduced administrative burden.
- SJVCEO was selected as the lead implementing organization for the Valley Integrated Energy Watch (VIEW) project, a local government partnership with Southern California Edison and The Gas Company, which is expected to provide more than \$2 million in funding and support over a four-year period to help local jurisdictions in Tulare and Kings counties improve the energy efficiency.
- SJVCEO successfully completed “green” pilot projects in Visalia, Arvin, and Fresno.
- Collaborating with the Mendota Advanced Bioenergy Beet Cooperative to establish a biorefinery.
- Collaborating with International Center for Water Technology (ICWT) in planning the upcoming May 2010 Water Technology Conference in the Valley.
- Helped acquire Department of Energy loan for Los Baños almond hull plant.
- Worked with Stanislaus and Merced County community colleges and universities to develop a “green” workforce.

held to increase awareness of equity capital in the region and to identify and train angel investors. A strategic partnership between Golden Capital Network and an existing venture capital fund was established to develop a venture capital investment program throughout Central California.

The second deliverable was to develop a strong infrastructure that supports entrepreneurship and business growth. The main focus here was to bring business ambassadors from throughout the area together to network and learn more about fostering entrepreneurship and business incubation in their communities. Efforts included workshops, forums, the Web site www.valleybizconnect.org, a podcast, and a strategic alliance between the Central Valley Business Incubator and State Center Community College District.

The final deliverable was to initiate and sustain venture capital deal flow generation programs and activities. The New California 100 Awards conference and banquet, now entering its third year, was created by the Golden Capital Network as an opportunity to honor regional business owners while engaging venture and angel capitalists in panel discussion.



- Facilitated joint wastewater project by Modesto and Ceres to provide tertiary treatment and surplus water.
- Produced an Energy Primer as a simple easy to read tool for local government policy makers.
- Convened a Green Bus Tour highlighting successful green practices in the northern San Joaquin Valley.
- Initiated green house gas inventories for cities served by PG&E using ICLEI protocols.
- Both SJVCEO and GVC have developed useful Web sites for public education about energy issues
- Produced and distributed daily newsletter on energy, planning and sustainability issues.
- Hosted and presented AB 32 and SB 375 forums for local government policy makers.
- Convened cities in Stanislaus County for a regional wastewater treatment plan.

The Energy Work Group was one of the seven work groups that supported the office of the Secretariat in completing the Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan—a list of shovel-ready projects eligible for stimulus funding. Work Plans were requested by the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency as part of a statewide effort to preserve and expand our jobs base, help communities and businesses survive the global financial crisis and lay the foundation for economic recovery and sustained growth.

Future Priorities

- Continue outreach efforts by conducting forums and one-on-one meetings to aggressively work with cities/counties and others in the region through SJVCEO/GVC to support the effort of jurisdictions to green their operations and utilize clean energy resources available through the stimulus bill. Partner with federal and state agencies in this effort and work to ensure that the Valley gets its fair share of these efforts.
- Work through 25x'25 Initiative, attending conferences, meetings and events to share experiences and learn strategies from peers across the country on how to fully develop the renewable energy potential in the Valley.
- Conduct outreach on renewable energy potential and projects under way in the Valley and incorporate these assessments into a regional clean energy strategy.



- Conduct Energy Work Group outreach through quarterly SJVCEO board meetings.
- Pursue sustainable funding for SJVCEO/GVC to fully support Partnership initiatives.
- Participate in and promote Partnership events.
- Coordinate and consolidate regional issues through the GVC Energy Program Web site and e-newsletters (San Joaquin Valley Connect & Sacramento Valley Connect).
- Provide mentorship and intern/fellow staffing for local government facilities greenhouse gas inventories

“Under the umbrella of the Partnership, we’ve worked closely with a number of work groups and Councils of Government to pursue stimulus funds that could significantly improve the San Joaquin Valley in a number of areas, energy being one. This type of cohesiveness and cooperation wouldn’t have been possible in the past. Now, more than ever, the Valley needs an entity like the Partnership.”

Secretary Mike Chrisman
California Natural Resources Agency
Convener, Energy Work Group





Seed Grant Report

Growing Clean Energy Capacity in the San Joaquin Valley

San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization \$125,000 (King's River Conservation District)

The San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization (SJVCEO) was developed in May 2007 with a Partnership seed grant. Just 14 months after its inception, SJVCEO was fully operational and assumed seed grant responsibility from the Kings River Conservation District. By the end of 2009, SJVCEO was well along the road to being financially self-sustaining.

In its short history, SJVCEO has made great headway in its goal of increasing the level of clean energy activities in the Valley.

Here are a few of the organization's more notable achievements:

- Selected to be lead implementing organization for VIEW, the local government utility partnership in Tulare and Kings counties
- Forged partnership with the Air District which will bring energy block grant funding resources to 36 smaller jurisdictions in the Valley.
- Developed partnerships and submitted multiple applications totalling over \$17 million to bring in energy stimulus funding into the Valley for energy retrofits for residences, small commercial municipal facilities.
- Joined KVPT's "Be More Green San Joaquin Campaign" in September 2008 to promote the implementation of clean energy and greening efforts in the region.
- Hosted "Clean Technology and Green Economy Forum" in September 2008 to define needs and opportunities for growing a green economy in the region.
- Signed an agreement and initiated work under a memorandum of understanding with the national 25x25 Initiative to help the Valley be a demonstration region for the nation on renewables.
- Identified opportunities and offered written comments and support for national energy block grant and tax credit legislation. Met with U.S. Department of Energy representatives to explore how the Valley could participate in emerging federal clean energy programs.
- Participated in the redesign of the California low-income energy efficiency program.
- Started the process of identifying existing green workforce development efforts and projects in the Valley.

Selected Pilot Approaches:

- Supported and hosted Farming Clean Energy conferences in Tulare in 2008 and 2009 to explore opportunities for clean energy development in the agricultural sector. Sponsors have included USDA, Pacific Gas & Electric Co., Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas Company, and private sector energy companies.
- Provided technical advice and input to develop green energy features for the planned development of the Southeast Growth Area (SEGA) just outside of Fresno.
- Supported a project in 2008 with the City of Visalia to develop a greenhouse gas emissions baseline for the City. SJVCEO continues to support the City's efforts to develop targets and a climate action plan for reducing emissions.
- GVC sponsored three statewide conventions on sustainability and energy issues in 2008-2009.



Health and Human Services

Mission: Achieve improved health status and well-being by promoting healthy lifestyles, nurturing safe communities, providing timely access to necessary health care and social services, and embracing the cultural diversity of the region.

A primary goal of the Health and Human Services Work Group is to establish a University of California, Merced medical school within 10 years. In 2009, the work group took a few major steps toward making this dream a reality.

In January, consultants with the Washington Advisory Group (WAG), retained by UC Merced, submitted a final report to UC Merced Chancellor Steve Kang recommending three initial stages for planning a fully independent medical school. In February, University of California President Mark Yudof encouraged the simultaneous development of phases one and two.

“Although much was accomplished by the Health and Human Services Work Group in 2009, there are many goals to achieve. One of the Valley’s most valuable assets is its diverse population, rich in culture and ready to contribute to the economic development of its communities. The work to improve our population’s health and well-being is essential for the future success of the Central Valley. With the continued support of the Partnership, the private sector and community members, this important work can continue.”

Mike Navarro
Lionakis Beaumont Design Group
Convener, Health and Human Services
Work Group

The Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School and the Partnership support the WAG report findings. Both passed resolutions in support of an expedited time line for the independently accredited UC Merced medical school to be established by 2015.

The Health and Human Services Work Group continues its efforts to enhance public health capabilities and address the needs of the uninsured in the region. The work group continues to monitor health-care reform efforts in Washington, D.C., and will look for opportunities to align the Valley with national interests.

Future Priorities

Building momentum for the UC Merced medical school is the top priority for the work group. Plans are under way to initiate an outreach program designed to educate residents about the need for a medical school in the San Joaquin Valley and engage them in the planning process. Advocacy, fundraising, and planning will continue up to and beyond the school’s opening.

The work group will continue garnering support for the Methamphetamine Recovery Project and advocate for the foster children of the Valley by supporting legislation that would increase relative placement and decrease foster care placement throughout the region.

Seed Grant Report

Methamphetamine Recovery Project

Central California Social Welfare Evaluation, Research and Training Center (SWERT) \$150,000

The Methamphetamine Recovery Project focused on development of comprehensive methamphetamine education, treatment and recovery programs throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

As the Project evolved, it was apparent that the most effective means for achieving the goal would be to engage communities in grass-roots conversations about what types of programs should be included in a comprehensive approach. Local solutions to regional issues became the guiding theme for a process that sought out, respected, and represented the voices of individuals and communities.

SWERT held meetings in each Valley county in the summer of 2008 as well as a legislative forum, which offered an opportunity for local, state, and federal legislators and policy makers to participate in an open discussion and hear from



individuals and family members about addiction, treatment, and recovery in the Valley.

The result of these discussions is *Local Solutions to Regional Issues: A Report from the Methamphetamine Recovery Project*, SWERT's final report about the impact of methamphetamine in the Valley. The report describes community-specific solutions already in place and perceptions about types of programs, legislation, and policies needed to support a comprehensive approach to complex issues. The Project report was endorsed by the Methamphetamine Recovery Project Advisory Council at its December 5, 2008, meeting.

San Joaquin Valley Health Enterprise Zone Project

Central Valley Health Policy Institute (CVHPI) \$125,000

The San Joaquin Valley Health Enterprise Zone (HEZ) project was developed to respond to the Health and Human Services Work Group recommendation to: Establish medical "enterprise zones" throughout the region that offer tax credits and other financial incentives for providers to retain, open and expand services to underserved populations.

The initial objectives of the HEZ project were to identify the critical elements for successful recruitment and retention of health professionals and health services in underserved areas

of the region, foster consumer awareness and responsibility for healthy living and wellness practices, and explore the feasibility of applying this model through community and stakeholder participation.

The HEZ project has resulted in several accomplishments. First, the project increased collaboration among health-care stakeholders in the Valley's eight counties and generated enthusiasm and positive media interest throughout the Valley. Legislative representatives, local physicians and hospital recruiters, health-care economists, health-care consortiums and advocacy groups, medical societies, and Valley constituents have inquired about the HEZ models and support for forthcoming recommendations.

Valley health-care stakeholders have identified their primary interest in furthering the HEZ Federal Medicaid (FMAP) health-care financing model to address the shortage in the Valley of health-care professional shortages in the Valley. Focus on this FMAP model requires additional resources and application for a federal waiver to implement. CVHPI has been analyzing state and national data to identify if there are other comparable substate regions in California and nationally. CVHPI is assessing the feasibility of implementing a pilot of this model to improve the supply of specialty and primary care physicians in the Valley. All Valley counties have reached a consensus to continue the necessary research to move this HEZ FMAP model forward and to the state and national legislatures.



Higher Education and Workforce Development

Mission: Expand higher education opportunities and develop the workforce preparation infrastructure to support sustained, long-term economic vitality.

Higher Education

Higher Education welcomed five new college/university members in 2009: San Joaquin Valley College of Law, DeVry University, Heald College, National University and Alliant International University. There are now 28 representatives from colleges and universities across the San Joaquin Valley, most of which are chancellors and college and university presidents.

Last year also marked the third anniversary of The College Place, a collective project to increase the college going culture in the Valley. In 2009, we provided 1,000 students with the information and resources needed to attend college. As a result of our efforts, 1,200 students were counseled to complete college applications; 80 percent submitted completed applications. Additionally, 192 students attended follow up sessions at The College Place (see Seed Grant Report for more information).

The work group partnered with the Campaign for College Opportunity to launch the 2009 Save Me A Spot in College campaign. As a result, more than 100 students are now trained as peer college coaches. In March, the work group launched “Embark: A Guide to Higher Education in the Central Valley.” The publication was distributed to middle school counselors who attended the “College: Making it Happen” event. More than 70 middle school counselors were represented.

In January 2009, consultants with the Washington Advisory Group (WAG) submitted a report to University of California, Merced Chancellor Steve Kang with recommendations for planning a fully independent medical school at UC Merced. In February, University of California President Mark Yudof encouraged the simultaneous development of phases one and two of the three-stage recommendation. The Valley Coalition for UC Merced Medical School and the Partnership passed resolutions in support of an expedited time line for the independently accredited UC Merced medical school to be established by 2015.

Another notable development was the fourth annual Hispanic Youth Symposium, held in July at California State University, Fresno. Nearly 200 students from across the Valley attended the four-day program, which provides students with the tools needed to focus on college, careers, and community service. Student advisers and community members met with high school students to discuss ways to get into college, get

financial aid, and compete for available scholarship money. Students at the Symposium received more than \$10,000 in scholarship awards for college tuition.

Over the past year, the work group has somewhat shifted its focus to include policy and advocacy and has been working with the California Legislative Analyst’s Office to address barriers to college completion and transfer.

Workforce Development

The goal of Workforce Development is to create a demand-driven workforce investment system that supports target clusters. Thanks to a partnership with the Central California Workforce Collaborative (CCWC), Workforce Development moved closer toward its goal in 2009 with these achievements:

- Continued development and marketing of www.careersinthevalley.com, an aggregate employment Web site offering job postings, training, and employment study information categorized by county.
- Use of Executive Pulse, a software program that allows various entities to submit critical information regarding individual business hiring, training, expansion, and relocation needs.
- Standardized assessments using the Central California Career Readiness Certificate, which verifies to employers that an individual has essential core employability as well as skills in reading for information, applied mathematics and locating information.
- Implementation of the Manufacturing Skills Standards Certification, a process for ascertaining that an individual has the specific skills necessary to be recognized as a certified production technician.
- Cross-county collaboration in preparation for the 15 percent Workforce Investment Area (WIA) state grant.
- San Joaquin Valley Workforce Funding Collaborative (SJVWFC), which supports innovative initiatives that target the employment development needs of low-skilled, low-income workers. The California Endowment awarded \$300,000 to SJVWFC to hire a program officer.

Future Priorities

Future plans of Higher Education include the expansion of its seed grant, The College Place. This involves collaboration with San Joaquin Valley libraries and workforce investment boards to provide easily accessible locations for parents and students to receive services. Higher Education also seeks to



continue meetings with CEO-level higher education leaders, four times yearly, and subcommittee support for special initiatives.

Workforce Development will develop and distribute career ladder informational brochures aimed at job seekers promoting the occupations that survey results validated as being in high demand. The work group also plans to conduct a survey update for 2009-2011, continued promotion of www.careersinthevalley.com, and to update each regional Web site with survey results that encourage job seekers and students to pursue high-demand occupations.

“We are actively enrolling students in college, preparing the workforce for job opportunities in the region’s key industries, and we are now closer than ever to realizing the dream of a fully independent medical school right here in the San Joaquin Valley. Thanks to the work of the Partnership, more Valley residents are receiving the advanced education and training they need for sustained success in the new economy.”

Acting Secretary Doug Hoffner
California Labor and Workforce
Development Agency
Convener, Higher Education and
Workforce Development Work Group

Seed Grant Report

The College Place: A Community-Based College Access Center

**Central Valley Higher Education
Consortium (CVHEC)**
\$200,000

The Higher Education and Workforce Development seed grant initiative is The College Place, located at the Manchester Mall in Fresno. This initiative was a critical step in helping San Joaquin Valley residents gain access to college readiness and coaching services in the evenings and weekends in a nontraditional, yet familiar setting.

The College Place features 18 computer stations equipped with high-speed Internet access. College coaches are available to provide information on:

- Goal setting
- Preparing for college
- Exploring majors and careers
- Housing options
- Financial aid scholarship searches
- Early awareness resources

Since beginning in 2007, The College Place has enjoyed significant support from the community and local media. The Walter S. Johnson Foundation, City of Fresno, and Fresno Rotary all made significant donations in 2009.

CVHEC highlights of 2009 include:

- Outreach to 1,000 students, providing college-going information
- Counseled 1,200 youth to complete college applications—exceeded goal
- Counseled 550 students to enroll in a two-year or four-year college

The College Place formed a partnership with the Central Valley Library Consortium which now hosts satellite locations in 10 libraries throughout the Valley. Marketing and outreach efforts of this initiative include the main Web site (http://www.collegenext.org/The_College_Place.html), social media (www.myspace.com/thecollegeplace), and a radio campaign that started in February 2009.

The initiative also completed Guide Book to Valley Colleges and Universities, which lists all of the higher education institutions in the Valley and promotes the quality and quantity of higher education in the Valley. The publication will be posted on the main Web site and provided to county offices of education, local school districts, community programs and nonprofit organizations, and workforce investment boards.

The Higher Education and Workforce Development Work Group was one of the seven work groups that supported the office of the Secretariat in completing the Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan—a list of shovel-ready projects eligible for stimulus funding. Work Plans were requested by the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency as part of a statewide effort to preserve and expand our jobs base, help communities and businesses survive the global financial crisis and lay the foundation for economic recovery and sustained growth.



Land Use, Agriculture and Housing

Mission: Support and promote regional consensus on future land use through the San Joaquin Valley Regional Blueprint plan process which identifies appropriate areas for growth and economic development, contributing to the conservation of important agricultural land and natural resources and advancing the sustainability of the region.

The Land Use, Agriculture and Housing Work Group accomplished many goals in 2009, the most significant being the adoption and implementation of Blueprint Scenario B+ as a Regional Preferred Scenario. This scenario would increase Valley-wide density from 13 persons per acre to 21 persons per acre, reduce total acres of new land developed from 533,000 acres to 354,000 acres, and reduce consumption of farmland from 327,000 acres to 209,000 acres.

Initial data also indicates reduction of commute vehicle miles traveled from 240 million miles to approximately 233 million miles, and mobile exhaust greenhouse gas from 173,000 tons a day to 168,000 tons a day. Use of 4-D planning tools suggests additional reductions from these conservative estimates.

The work group hosted meetings for regional planners regarding the new guidelines set forth by Senate Bill 375 (redesigning communities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions) and Assembly Bill 32 (Global Warming Solutions Act).

The work group researched land use and transportation planning and its impact on community health as well as the fiscalization of land use decisions.

Future Priorities

- Assist development of regional consensus on values, goals, strategies, and guidelines for the Regional Blueprint Plan.
- Coordinate with the eight Valley Councils of Government (COGs) to recognize the Blueprint as the vehicle for achieving land use, transportation and air quality.
- Promote adoption of community design guidelines that will ensure strong neighborhoods, improve mobility, improve air quality, increase energy efficiency in buildings, and increase infrastructure cost-effectiveness through land use.

- Research optimum (minimal) city size for fiscal and economic self-sufficiency.
- Develop an integrated process/forum through Valley COGs to discuss regional infrastructure.
- Develop a long-range plan to maintain the viability of agriculture in the region.

“The Partnership provided the impetus for the first coordinated land use planning effort in the San Joaquin Valley. After three years of pulling together the best ideas and the creative thinking of thousands of Valley residents from the eight counties, and with the support of the Great Valley Center, the Blueprint process is complete. As we move toward implementation, we will focus on converting the Blueprint principles into implementation strategies that meet the new requirements of SB 375. The goal is to have cities and counties in the Valley begin incorporating these new ideas and concepts into their general plans. The work of the American Farm Trust and the Tulare Wildlife Basin, accomplished with Partnership grants, provided strategies and new ideas for saving the region’s best resources and most important farmland, while still welcoming new residents to the Great Central Valley.”

Barry G. Hibbard
Representative, California Economic
Strategy Panel
Convener, Land Use, Agriculture and
Housing Work Group



Seed Grant Report

Farmland Conservation Model Program

City of Fresno \$200,000

The Council of Fresno County Governments, working closely with American Farmland Trust, developed the Model Farmland Conservation Program to help preserve farmland in the San Joaquin Valley by carefully balancing urban development and agricultural areas in the region.

Most of the growing cities in Fresno County are located in the midst of its most strategic farmland; therefore, increasing efficiency of development is the single most important thing that can be done to conserve the county's irreplaceable farmland. The Model Farmland Conservation Program proposes three basic elements:

1. Establish a Strategic Agricultural Reserve that comprises the highest categories of strategic farmland, which should be conserved by a county policy that prohibits most nonfarm development within the Reserve and by holding cities accountable for not encroaching upon the area unless necessary.
2. Develop objective criteria for expansion of city spheres of influence based on the demonstration of genuine need in light of the imperative of developing land more efficiently.
3. Create a Stewardship Council as a nonregulatory, public-private partnership to oversee the progress of the Model Farmland Conservation Program and to conduct a study of additional possible elements of the program including, but not limited to, new design and fiscal models for urban growth, buffer areas between cities, alternative for financing agricultural conservation easements, and options for discouraging rural residential development.

Integrating Land and Water Solutions in Tulare Lake Basin

Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners \$125,000

The purpose of Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners (TBWP) is to protect, enhance, and restore wildlife and their habitats in Tulare Lake Basin. TBWP's undertaking was to deliver conservation bank site recommendations for Tulare County Association of Governments (TCAG) as well as to develop a comprehensive outreach and fundraising plan that would make it possible to implement the highest priority conjunctive use land and water conservation

projects recommended by the TBWP and its partners in the Tulare Lake Basin Working Group. TBWP achieved early completion of these deliverables.

TBWP's accomplishments also included the following:

- Continued strong focus on Conservation Priority Projects, with special focus on Goose Lake Ephemeral Lake acquisition, and on Deer Creek.
- Increased community outreach and fundraising efforts, including expanding to two business meetings per year and a planned annual exhibit at the World Ag Expo. The group will host an annual tour of important Tulare Basin Wildlife sites.
- Completed the Council of Fresno County Governments Measure C Riparian-Wildlife Corridor Report, enlisting a new constituency of support among Fresno County transportation planners, city planners, and mayors.
- Obtained more than \$250,000 in new grants for projects to include the Friant-Kern Canal Basin Modification and Environmental Groundwater Banking collaboration with the Deer Creek Tule River Authority, Tulare Basin Regional Conservation Plan Water Supply Strategies, and Tulare Basin Corridor Conservation Plan.
- Cemented a partnership with faculty of University of California, Merced Sierra Nevada Research Institute for a University of California Natural Reserve System Field Station based at the U.S. Bureau of Land Management Atwell Island Project site.
- Completed the Draft Tulare Basin Wildlife-Riparian Corridor Plan for California Department of Fish and Game Conceptual Area Protection Plan.
- Completed and launched the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners Web page (www.tularebasinwildlifepartners.org) and developed new marketing materials.



PreK-12 Education

Mission: Implement policies and programs through public-private partnerships to ensure equal access to educational opportunities and resources for all children that will improve academic performance.

The PreK-12 Education Work Group continued to make significant progress toward its mission, thanks to strong partnerships with several San Joaquin Valley county offices of education (COE) and Central Valley Education Leadership Institute (CVELI).

Kern COE worked diligently to develop a Web site focusing on college and careers for Valley students. The site features virtual tours of Valley campuses and videos of industry clusters with local high school and college talent providing narration. A \$25,000 donation from AT&T allowed Kern COE to purchase various software packages to keep the site engaging and relevant.

Fresno COE provided training for the second cohort of districts participating in the English Language Learner Leadership Academy. The work group identified schools in the region that had made significant progress with their English learners. Representatives from these schools were asked to share their successful strategies in three of the breakout sessions at the January 2009 Exemplary Practices in Education Conference at California State University, Fresno.

More than 300 participants from nine counties attended the Exemplary Practices in Education Conference, which provided the opportunity to learn from regional exemplary schools about closing the achievement gap and to discuss the status of preschool planning and education in the Valley. Educational leaders attended more than 20 breakout sessions about exemplary practices for K-12 settings in the areas identified by Partnership goals. Preschool education attendees explored the possibility of creating a regional voice for preschool issues, which resulted in the draft message: 8 Counties, One Voice for Today's Children and for the Future of California's Great Central Valley – Beginning Now. Merced COE agreed to make possible the process of continuing regional conversation and exploring next steps.

CVELI had a busy and successful 2009. Along with hosting the Exemplary Practices Conference in January, CVELI convened two sessions of the Executive Leadership Center for Superintendents with six counties participating. In addition, 33 Valley school districts received direct coaching support through Pivot Learning Partners, which provides professional development to help accelerate learning of lowest-performing students.

“Cooperation and collaboration between the Partnership, San Joaquin Valley County Offices of Education, and Central Valley Education Leadership Institute grows stronger every year. Together, we are working to provide our Valley's children with the early educational opportunities that will help them succeed in school and in life.”

Secretary Glen Thomas
California Office of the Secretary
for Education
Convener, PreK-12 Education Work Group

Future Priorities

- CVELI and Valley county offices of education now have responsibility for leadership development activities for Central Valley educational leaders. This includes computer literacy conferences, the Executive Leadership Center for Superintendents, and Superintendents Academy, which is designed to train future Valley superintendents. The primary work group activity will be to organize the third annual Exemplary Practices in Education Conference.
- CVELI and the Valley's eight county superintendents, represented by Larry Powell, will explore the potential of a redesigned or new PreK-12 Work Group to address Partnership goals and implement the next phase of the Strategic Action Proposal.
- CVELI, with support from the Living Cities Planning Grant, is meeting with Fresno Compact and a targeted group to consider replicating the work of Strive Cincinnati (www.strivetgether.org) in the Fresno area. This may serve as a model for other parts of the region which are supported by the Partnership.
- Work with the Partnership board to discuss the Partnership's role in eliminating the achievement gap in the Valley, as well as any other relevant priorities the board may request.
- Participate in regional research and leadership efforts addressing strategies for enhancing preschool education,





college going/college completion, high school dropout prevention, and career preparation/placement of student enhancement. Participation will be possible as funding is available and through existing organizations and collaboratives.

Seed Grant Report

English Language Learner Leadership Academy

Fresno County Office of Education
\$250,000

The purpose of the English Language Learner Leadership Academy (ELLLA) is to provide districts and schools with research-based curriculum, instruction, and intervention

strategies that are required to ensure equitable access and accelerated learning for English Learner (EL) students.

The first ELLLA cohort included two seminars, one in the North Valley and one in the South Valley, with a total of 86 participants from 16 districts. The seminars included instructional sessions that addressed research-based best practices in the following areas: systems development, culture, curriculum, assessment, instructional strategies, instructional programs, learning styles, professional development. Local school practitioners were invited to share their programs and strategies which have proven successful for accelerating EL student learning.

The Academy received an overwhelmingly high satisfaction rating. On average, participants rated the sessions a 4.4 on a scale of 1 to 5.



Transportation

Mission: Build innovative transportation systems to increase travel choices and improve mobility, regional and state goods movement, air quality, and economic prosperity.

The Transportation Work Group, which has been supported by the Great Valley Center since its inception, had a busy year in 2009. The group addressed upcoming stimulus funding availability, improvements along Highway 99, and the continued development of a high-speed rail line through the San Joaquin Valley. The Transportation Work Group was one of the seven work groups that supported the office of the Secretariat in completing the Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan—a list of shovel-ready projects eligible for stimulus funding. Work Plans were requested by the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency as part of a statewide effort to preserve and expand our jobs base, help communities and businesses survive the global financial crisis and lay the foundation for economic recovery and sustained growth.

The Transportation Work Group monitored the progress of the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint throughout 2009; a number of participants were active in the Blueprint Regional Advisory Council and other outreach events associated with this important regional planning initiative.

Working closely with the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, the work group formed strong alliances with entities from Northern California to compete for appropriations from the \$2 billion Trade Corridor Improvement Fund to improve Highway 99. This fund provides for infrastructure improvements along federally designated Trade Corridors of National Significance in California, which have a high volume of freight movement.

The work group successfully lobbied for the expedited completion of the Caltrans Highway 99 Business Plan, which calls for \$6.4 billion to be invested over the next 10 years. The Route 99 Corridor Master Plan will strengthen community identity, unify freeway improvements, and develop design concepts that tie communities throughout the corridor together and foster a Valley-wide identity.

The Partnership and Valley regional transportation planning agencies worked together to ensure the high-speed rail serves the needs of the entire Valley. The current route map calls for stops in Bakersfield, Visalia/Tulare/Hanford, Fresno, Merced, Modesto, and Stockton. The Partnership also worked with Valley stakeholders to support the state's application to the Federal Railroad Administration for \$1.4 billion in funding for two Valley high-speed rail segments that meet

qualifications for design/build work under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act application requirements.

In June 2009, the Partnership's board of directors accepted a resolution proposing that the Transportation Work Group be led by a new agency. San Joaquin Valley Councils of Government, along with Jesse Brown, executive director of Merced County Association of Government, have assumed the role of Work Group Consultant.

“Since the beginning of the Partnership, many have thought it was a gimmick, a facade for the government to use. But guess what? It worked. Communities are pulling together, developing strategies and discovering how to deliver the multitude of long-awaited projects with meaningful and sustainable planning for the future. We may not always agree on the pathway to travel, but we can find common ground on which stand. Just look at the Prop 1B results and the high-speed rail initiative—these are a couple of the larger success stories we can look back on and say, “Yes, the Partnership is working.” It is working for every Valley resident and those who come here to enjoy what we have to offer.”

Frank Bigelow
Madera County Board of Supervisors
Convener, Transportation Work Group



Future Priorities

- Explore ways to augment current funding for transportation projects including private/public partnerships.
- Provide educational opportunities for elected officials and staff on the benefits of corridor-adjacent land use policies.
- Work with Valley Councils of Government (COG) to improve safety and capacity of vital east-west corridors.
- Support and encourage implementation of the Regional Blueprint Plan by working with COGs and local governments.
- Design and organize the workshop “Transportation: A Cornerstone of the Economy” and identify volunteer communities for implementation.
- Help build a coalition to support Highway 99 improvements and work to create an identity for the corridor.

Seed Grant Report

Metro Rural Loop Corridor Feasibility Study

City of Fresno Planning and Development Department \$125,000

The Metro Rural Loop is a conceptual idea that links the various cities located within the Fresno-Madera metropolitan area by a multimodal transportation corridor. The Transportation Work Group is diligently working to make this long-term vision become a future reality for the people of the Valley.

Fresno, Madera, Tulare and Kings counties have worked collaboratively in blueprint planning. Detailed land use and transportation system mapping and allocations have been developed for years 2050 and 2110 and are currently being finalized for placement in the Draft Study Report.

The Metro Rural Loop was discussed at the Activity Center and Intensity Corridor Workshop on Dec. 9, 2008. More than 170 attended the workshop including members of the public, agency staff, and stakeholders.

Water Quality, Supply and Reliability

Mission: Ensure a reliable, adequate quality water supply to sustain a high quality of life, and a world-class agricultural sector, while protecting and enhancing the environment.

The Water Quality, Supply and Reliability Work Group accomplished a major milestone in 2009 when the San Joaquin Valley Water Plan Framework was affirmed by the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Board of Directors at its October meeting. The effort is critical in identifying the water needs of the San Joaquin Valley and in determining water management solutions for a 50-year planning horizon. A copy of the report is available at www.californiawater.org.

The work group supported the creation of the Delta Vision Foundation (www.deltavisionfoundation.org), which was formed in January 2009 to find a durable vision for sustainable management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta so it could continue to support environmental and economic functions critical to the people of California.

The work group supported efforts to incorporate major levee enhancements in the San Joaquin Valley River and tributary system and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta as well as efforts to augment Valley surface, groundwater bank, and recycled water projects for future water policy improvement.

Other accomplishments include the role of the work group in the partial restoration of San Joaquin River flows, the continued development of a salinity management infrastructure, and advisement of the Tulare Basin Rural Water Strategies Steering Committee to administer \$2 million in Proposition 84 monies.

The Water Quality, Supply and Reliability Work Group was one of the seven work groups that supported the office of the Secretariat in completing the Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan—a list of shovel-ready projects eligible for stimulus funding. Work Plans were requested by the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency as part of a statewide effort to preserve and expand our jobs base, help communities and businesses survive the global financial crisis, and lay the foundation for economic recovery and sustained growth.



“A new level of cooperation was achieved among the eight counties of the Partnership with unanimous adoption of the framework for Integrated Regional Water Management Plans. This document will enable the San Joaquin Valley counties to develop a common point of reference as we develop plans for the most efficient and beneficial uses of our water resources through conservation, reclamation, flood control, and storage and conveyance facilities. The suggested accountability of current and projected sources and uses of water throughout the Valley should help us manage precious water resources in a way that supports California’s economy while minimizing the impact on the environment and protecting existing water rights.”

Ray Watson
Kern County Board of Supervisors
Convener, Water Quality, Supply and Reliability Work Group

Future Priorities

- Develop a framework for phase II of the San Joaquin Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.
- Significantly improve the integrity of the levees for the San Joaquin, Merced, Kings, Kaweah, Tule and Kern rivers and tributaries and other Valley drainage systems.
- Complete the Upper San Joaquin Basin Project.
- Ensure all Disadvantaged Communities (DC) and Environmental Justice (EJ) areas in San Joaquin Valley have adequate sanitary sewage disposal facilities.
- Develop a Valley ecosystem restoration plan and participate in ongoing restoration of the Valley.

- Cost-effective, results-oriented, agricultural and urban water use and energy efficiency diagnostic, repair, retrofit and education programs.

Seed Grant Report

San Joaquin Valley Regional Water Plans Integration and University Farm Recycled Water Usage

California Water Institute (CWI) \$150,000

The approval of the collaborative San Joaquin Valley Integrated Water Plan Framework was a major accomplishment for this seed grant—and the Valley as a whole. The value added from the Partnership’s water policy work and the development of an eight-county vision is critically important as California moves well into the third year of a drought that may be worse than anything seen in the last 50 years.

The document is to be used as a living document by Central Valley agencies and governments to engage in the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) initiative, sponsored by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The IRWM initiative will afford access to Proposition 84 and 1E planning and construction funding. More information may be obtained by accessing the DWR Integrated Regional Water Management Web site: www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov.

Time, money and politics will continue to be the major issues facing development of viable state water policy. The current financial crisis in the face of a severe drought is not conducive for the development of a comprehensive, visionary water policy strategy that meets the needs of all California. It is, therefore, essential that the Valley’s eight counties develop their own vision for an equitable water policy. The San Joaquin Valley Water Plan Framework affords an opportunity for that vision.

Sowing Seeds for Community Health

Self-Help Enterprises \$100,000

Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) was incorporated in 1965 as a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving living conditions for low-income residents of the San Joaquin Valley. Since its inception, SHE has assisted more than 5,600 families in building their homes, 5,600 families in rehabilitating their homes, and 1,200 families with purchasing their homes. SHE has assisted with building 1,000 or more units of rental housing. In addition, SHE has





assisted 140 communities with securing funding to improve drinking water and/or wastewater facilities for over 25,000 families.

Self-Help Enterprises has used Partnership seed grant funds to assist many disadvantaged communities in the Valley. This funding helped the SHE Community Development Program increase from two to five staff, which has allowed SHE to address drinking water issues of many disadvantaged Valley

communities. SHE acquired over \$10,000,000 in loans and grants from funding agencies to address the water systems in these communities.

The \$100,000 Partnership seed grant, combined with new funding from the California Department of Public Health and Department of Water Resources, has greatly enhanced SHE's ability to assist Valley communities with water issues.



Administration Report

Meetings and Participation

The Partnership board of directors meets quarterly at locations throughout the San Joaquin Valley. In 2009, board meetings were held in Coalinga (first quarter), Modesto (second quarter), and Fresno (third quarter). In previous years, the board met in Bakersfield, Fresno, Hanford, Madera, Merced, Stockton, Tulare, and Visalia. It is essential to continue rotation of board meetings throughout the eight-county area to ensure the entire Valley is included.

Each regular 2009 board meeting included updates on the three priority issues identified by the board: air quality, transportation, and water supply, quality and reliability. New agenda items in 2009 included the Partnership's involvement with the creation of a medical school at UC Merced; California Forward, an organization devoted to creating a more responsive, representative, and cost-effective state government; and the San Joaquin Valley Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan, which identifies more than 2,700 "shovel ready" Valley projects submitted for funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

The board also received presentations from the Partnership's 10 work groups along with final reports from the 14 seed grants. During 2009, work groups met at least quarterly to address the challenges in their particular areas. The work groups bring together previously independent groups and organizations to develop solutions to common sets of challenges, while pushing the Strategic Action Proposal (SAP) forward. They also coordinate across work groups to address mutual issues. For example, the Economic Development, PreK-12 Education and Higher Education and Workforce Development work groups are working together on an objective to align the efforts of the Valley's economic corporations, the Central California Workforce Consortium and the California Community College Central Region Consortium.

The Partnership's focus on cooperation, collaboration and inclusion also is the foundation for the San Joaquin Clean Energy Organization and the San Joaquin Valley Housing Collaborative, two entities created by the Partnership to address critical energy and housing issues facing the Valley. In addition, the Partnership's 14 seed grants relied on participation from a broad range of stakeholders to move toward accomplishing their goals.

Meetings among the various work groups, participating organizations and boards proved to be fruitful, which is evident throughout this report.

Communications

Thanks to an effective media campaign and community outreach program, the Partnership's endeavors were well-noted throughout the Valley in 2009. The communications strategy included exposure on radio and television, further development of its Web site (www.sjvpartnership.org), a number of presentations given throughout the region by board members and Secretariat staff, a quarterly electronic newsletter, The Maddy Daily, and The Maddy Forum radio program, which provide key stakeholders with consistent updates on policy issues related to the Partnership's efforts.

The Partnership in 2010 plans to build off of last year's success by expanding the reach and frequency of its communications efforts. In a switch from the one-way module used in past years, the upcoming communications strategy will focus on interaction and exchange of ideas with the Partnership's many associates and stakeholders.

The Partnership Communications Strategy for 2010 has three primary objectives:

1. Increase two-way communications among the eight counties and 62 cities.
2. Identify, educate and outreach to Valley organizations exhibiting the priority initiatives and policy developments.
3. Increase preference as the Valley's primary advocacy and cross-regional planning vehicle.

To achieve these objectives, the Partnership must effectively reach its desired stakeholders. This plan will be executed through two strategies: Civic Engagement and General Public.

Civic Engagement— This strategy focuses on targeting public elected officials by county. This target audience includes: boards of supervisors, city councils, legislators and staff, councils of government, the League of California Cities, county economic development boards of directors and county workforce investment boards.

General Public— The Partnership also seeks to build a stronger relationship with the general public, notably community leaders, businesses and executives, and universities and educational centers.





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Annual Summit

As a component of the Partnership's communication efforts, the Partnership held its third Annual Summit at the Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center on Friday, October 23, 2009. The Summit was a major success, attracting more than 400 people from throughout the San Joaquin Valley, a significant increase from 2008. The program featured a variety of presentations and breakout sessions focusing on key issues affecting the Valley.

The event attracted distinguished individuals from throughout the state, many of whom made presentations. Front-running 2010 gubernatorial candidates from both parties were invited to speak during the luncheon; gubernatorial candidates Meg Whitman and Steve Poizner accepted the invitation and served as keynote speakers. Each shared their positions on pertinent issues affecting the region and how their leadership would impact the Valley. The Annual Summit also featured presentations from some of California's top officials, including Assemblymember Juan Arambula, 31st District, Senator Dave Cogdill, 14th District, and Secretary Mike Chrisman, California Natural Resources Agency and Partnership Chairman. Their eagerness to speak at this event illustrated the growing influence of the Partnership as a vehicle for advocacy and regional change.

A variety of challenging issues facing the Valley were discussed in breakout sessions which took place throughout the day. Breakout session panels brought together elected officials, regional leaders, and professional experts for lively and informative discussion. Titles of these panels included: "A Thirsty Valley & A Regional Water Plan"; "Cradle to Career: Issues in Education & Workforce"; "How Blue is the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint"; "A Green Light for A Green Valley"; "Connecting Air Quality, Energy, and the Valley's Economy"; and "Health Care Reform: A Prescription for Tomorrow."

The incredible attendance at this year's Summit—along with the prestigious presenters it attracted—reflects the importance of this event. In just three years, the Annual Summit has become the premier forum where Valley stakeholders can discuss the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for the eight-county region.

The Partnership would like to thank the sponsors of the 2009 Annual Summit: City of Fresno, Valley Clean Air Now (Valley CAN), Kaiser Permanente, Rabobank, San Joaquin Valley Winegrowers Association, Maverick Marketing, Bouquet of Fruits, Wawona Frozen Food, AT&T, Apropos For Flowers, The Fresno Bee, The Bakersfield Californian and Origami Foods.

Legislative Report

The Partnership held monthly legislative meetings involving representatives of state and federal elected officials and work group consultants to address important policy issues. In 2009, the Partnership played a significant role in a number of legislative efforts that will benefit the Valley:

ARRA Transportation "Economically Distressed"

The Partnership and the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council sent a joint letter to Caltrans Director Iwasaki expressing concern over the state's determination of "economically distressed" in regard to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's (ARRA) funding allocation decisions and recommendations. It requested that the state give additional consideration to those regions that have continuously experienced economic distress as they make upcoming funding decisions.

ARRA Transportation TIGER Funding

The Partnership sent a letter of support to the Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Dale E. Bonner for the State Route 99 widening project as part of California's application for funding through ARRA's Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) program. The request was supported by the Regional Policy Council and specifically asked for \$50 million to "convert State Route (SR)-99 from a four-lane expressway to six-lane freeway between Buchanan Hollow Road to the Miles Creek Overflow. This project also includes a new interchange at Arboleda Road."

High-Speed Rail ARRA Application

The Partnership sent letters and provided testimony at meetings of the California High-Speed Rail Authority as they considered their application for ARRA funding that they would be sending to the Federal Railroad Administration. The Partnership worked with the Regional Policy Council, various Valley jurisdictions, the Valley legislative delegation, and others to advocate in support of funding the Bakersfield to Fresno and Fresno to Merced routes—two Valley segments that met the qualifications for design/build work under the ARRA requirements. The Partnership also continued to advocate for NEPA/CEQA work on the other Valley segments.

On September 23, the Authority unanimously approved and submitted an application for \$4.5 billion in federal stimulus funding for engineering, design and construction on the state's high-speed train system—generating an investment of \$9.1 billion when state matching funds are added. Approximately, \$1.4 billion was provided to the Valley for:

- Preliminary Engineering-NEPA/CEQA Corridor Programs: Merced to San Jose, Bakersfield to Fresno,



Fresno to Merced, Bakersfield to Palmdale, Merced to Sacramento, and the Altamont Corridor Rail.

- Design/Build Corridor Programs: Merced to Fresno, Fresno to Bakersfield.

A dollar-for-dollar match of state and local funds, including the Prop 1A HSR bond passed by voters, is to be used to match the federal share of \$4.5 billion, of which the Valley would benefit from \$2.8 billion.

Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2

The Partnership in July 2009 formed a regional consortium of nine agencies and jurisdictions from across the Valley in an effort to seek \$193 million in Neighborhood Stabilization Program 2 (NSP-2) funding through ARRA. On behalf of the consortium, the Partnership sent a letter to U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan to request his support for the nine individual applications and to urge HUD to consider the requests as a regional package.

Ongoing Activities

Water Bond – State Efforts

The Partnership sent a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger, Speaker Bass, President Pro Tem Steinberg, Assembly Minority Leader Sam Blakeslee, and Senate Minority Leader Dennis Hollingsworth, urging the legislative leadership to take the necessary action to resume work on the water plan at the earliest possible date, set a date certain for conclusion of the work, and release to the public the latest version of the relevant bills (with all amendments included) at the time the legislature adjourned on September 11, 2009. The Partnership also expressed support for the co-equal goals proposed by the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon Task Force—a healthy Delta ecosystem and reliable water supply—and asked that special consideration be given to the principles enumerated in the resolution from the Delta Counties Coalition.

Sustainable Communities

The Partnership wrote to Senators Feinstein and Boxer to request their assistance in establishing the Valley as a demonstration region under the federal interagency Sustainable Communities Initiative partnership.

California Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary Ray LaHood, HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa Jackson recently formed an interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities to improve access to affordable housing, more transportation options, and lower transportation

costs while protecting the environment in communities nationwide. Among their proposed activities, this partnership “will seek to integrate housing, transportation, water infrastructure, and land use planning and investment. HUD, EPA and DOT propose to make planning grants available to metropolitan areas, and create mechanisms to ensure those plans are carried through to localities.”

ARRA and the San Joaquin Valley’s Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan

In 2009, the California Business, Transportation and Housing Agency (BTH) requested that the Partnership prepare a Regional Economic Recovery Work Plan (Plan) for the Valley. The purpose of the Plan was to identify projects and programs that can be immediately initiated (“shovel ready”) to maximize the impact of the funding provided by ARRA. The Partnership Secretariat conducted several meetings with affected and eligible cities, counties and agencies throughout the Valley, requesting voluntary compliance in submitting projects for the Plan.

The Secretariat activated seven Partnership work groups to assemble, review and compile the projects based on the minimum criteria established by BTH. To be considered,

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projects needed to leverage resources, expedite infrastructure delivery, support growth of business and innovation, develop California's workforce, and enhance environmental quality, where possible. The projects submitted were forwarded to the appropriate Partnership work group. There were more than 4,000 submittals, which was reduced to 2,700 projects after eliminating redundancies, totaling \$11 billion in requested funding.

The Partnership's active work groups and excellent communication over the broad area of the Valley made possible the formation and completion of this Plan within the timeframe requested by BTH. This was a collaborative effort by all who submitted projects, work group consultants who reviewed and assembled projects, and the Partnership Secretariat in preparing and presenting the Plan for BTH consideration.

After submitting the Plan, the Secretariat continued to track ARRA funding availability and awarded funding to the Valley. California is expected to receive \$85 billion through ARRA. As of December 9, 2009, approximately \$33 billion had been awarded and of that award total, more than \$16 billion had been expended, \$1.4 billion of which has been spent within the Valley.

Below is a list of Valley counties and their total ARRA funding:

Kern County	\$352,091,600
Fresno County	\$347,749,000
San Joaquin County	\$267,821,100
Tulare County	\$158,506,600
Stanislaus County	\$115,471,500
Kings County	\$79,506,300
Merced County	\$62,219,560
Madera County	\$34,710,940

The Valley has been awarded \$1.4 billion in ARRA funds for 1,182 projects throughout the eight counties. The Secretariat will continue to track ARRA funding through 2010 and provide updates to stakeholders.

Sustainability of the Partnership

On December 23, 2008, Governor Schwarzenegger issued a new executive order, S-17-08, acknowledging the important work and success of the Partnership and extending it indefinitely on the terms set forth in its prior executive order, S-22-06.



Workforce Investment Act Grant

In 2009, the Partnership was awarded a \$2 million grant funded by the Governor’s Discretionary Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds. Some of the major partners for the grant include seven of the Partnership work groups (Water Quality, Supply and Reliability, PreK-12, Economic Development, Energy, Air Quality, Advanced Communications Services and Higher Education and Workforce Development) as well as Great Valley Center and Lyles Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Funds for this grant will be used by the partners to coordinate education and training efforts for high-wage, high-demand jobs. Further, the goal of this grant is to connect existing workforce development entities which yield workforce skills needed by the targeted industry clusters. Our hope is this grant will leave a lasting legacy for the Valley.

Through a series of demonstration projects, grant monies will be used to train workers in basic job skills, English speaking, and computer literacy. In addition, entrepreneurship

development centers will be established across the Valley to train people for self-employment. The project will target jobs in water technology, renewable energy, food processing, agricultural technology and biotechnology—all industries that are closely tied to agribusiness, the heart of the regional economy—as well as manufacturing and supply chain management.

The Partnership and its associate organizations have set forth a list of four deliverables that will be pursued as part of this grant project:

1. **Sector-Based Articulation**
 A fully coordinated academic and training program, from high schools through colleges and universities, which provides a curriculum with the rigor and relevance needed to yield qualified employees with immediate value for targeted industry clusters.

Representatives from the following Partnership work groups serve on steering committees for this deliverable:

WIA Grant Initiatives

Basic Education Proficiency

- English Language Learners
- Digital Literacy

Sector-Based Articulation

Business Incubation & Entrepreneurship Development

Green Economy & Workforce



PreK-12 Education, Higher Education and Workforce Development, Economic Development, Air Quality, Water Quality, Supply and Reliability.

2. Basic Education Proficiency

Two workforce-readiness programs that address areas of significant deficiency in the Valley: English language learners and digital literacy.

English language learners - Representatives from the following Partnership work groups serve on steering committees for this deliverable: **PreK-12 Education, Higher Education and Workforce Development.**

Digital Literacy- Representatives from the following Partnership work group chair and serve on the steering committee for this deliverable: **Advanced Communications Services.**

3. Business Incubation & Entrepreneurship Development

Establish a network of entrepreneurship development programs (E-Centers) focused on the targeted regional industry clusters throughout the eight-county region.

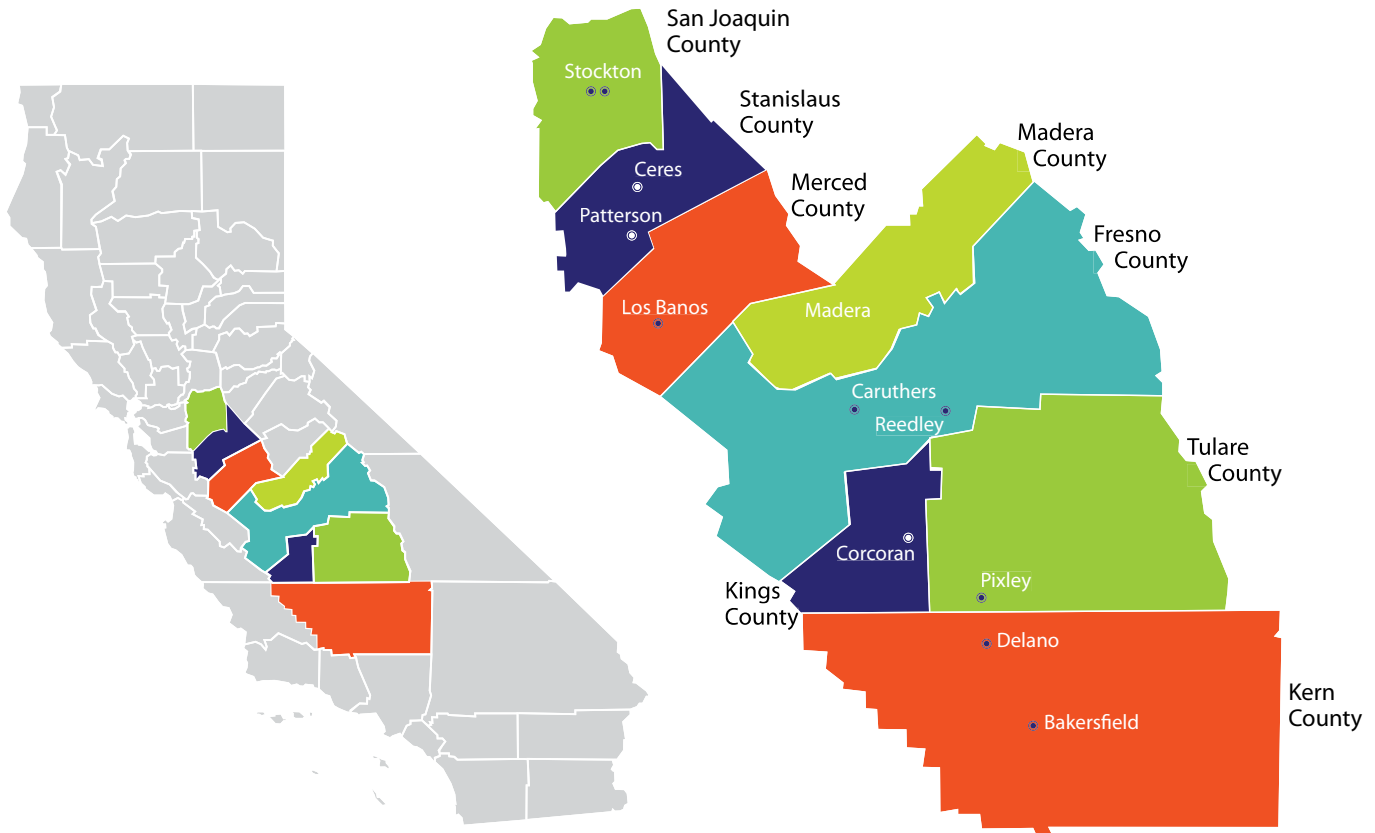
4. Green Economy & Workforce

Ensure that the green economy and workforce are part of this new occupational development in the Valley, consistent with the needs of agribusiness, the goals of AB 32—the Global Warming Solutions Act, the air quality goals of the Partnership and the energy independence goals of the San Joaquin Valley Clean Energy Organization.

Representatives from the Partnership’s **Air Quality and Water Quality, Supply and Reliability Work Group** serve on the Demonstration Project Steering Committee for this deliverable.

The benefits of this grant will extend far beyond its two-year life. As business incubators turn out new businesses, a fully articulated education system will be producing their future employees. In addition, programs that provide English language training, basic skills remediation, and computer

San Joaquin Valley WIA Grant Demonstration Sites





literacy for those who need it to be productive members of the workforce will be in place. The result will be Workforce Investment Board (WIB) customers who are better prepared to take advantage of the technical skill training and re-training that the WIBs offer; thus improving the training and placement outcomes of the Valley WIBs far into the future. The ultimate result of these efforts is a lower unemployment rate, improved economy, and better quality of life for residents of the Valley.

Future Priorities

In the face of unprecedented economic uncertainty, the Partnership remains undaunted in its mission of achieving the goals set forth in the Strategic Action Proposal (SAP). Though statewide budget cuts present unique challenges, the Partnership and all of its stakeholders are committed to doing more with less over the next 12 months, and beyond.

Based on what we have achieved in our short history, the importance of the Partnership to our Valley cannot be underestimated. Thanks to the hard work of our stakeholders, the Partnership has played a key role in obtaining millions of dollars to support various projects across the Valley. The recent WIA grant, EDA grant, and ongoing efforts to acquire funding are just a few examples of our promise of sustainability.

In the coming year, the Partnership will look for ways to streamline many of its projects in an effort to achieve maximum impact with minimal funding. We will build upon the goodwill the Partnership has generated over the past three years by greatly enhancing our communications and outreach efforts. Finally, we will make a united effort to actively seek out and obtain any and all available funding that will further the Partnership's ongoing mission.



Measuring Progress

In the 2006 Strategic Action Proposal of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, 16 key primary indicators of well-being for San Joaquin Valley residents were identified in order to easily measure progress and provide public accountability for progress. These indicators are to be reported annually.

As research in the Valley is limited, Partnership for the Assessment of Communities (PAC) was formed by a team of researchers from three universities in the region to measure change in Valley communities as the work of the Partnership proceeds. PAC is to supplement the statistical indicators as aggregating data across this large region often obscures what is happening to real people in their homes and neighborhoods. The additional longitudinal research in select communities will contribute valuable local level data.

Primary Statistical Indicators

The following graphs display the current San Joaquin Valley performance as well as the goals for improvement to be reached by 2016, 10 years after the Partnership was initially formed. These economic, education, environment and natural resources, health, land use, housing, transportation, and crime indicators serve as macro level measurements of

well-being. The graphs also display comparative data for California and other regions, where relevant.

While the selected goal indicators are not meant to be exhaustive or evaluative, they provide feedback to the Partnership to adjust course over time, if necessary, in order to achieve the Partnership's vision for the Valley. It is important to note, however, the goals may not be achieved because of external factors outside the control of leaders in the Valley or in California. The following shows the implied goal in the indicator:

- ↓ Unemployment
- ↑ Per Capita Personal Income
- ↑ Median Household Income
- ↓ Percent of Total Population in Poverty
- ↑ High School Graduation Rates
- ↑ College Graduation Rates
- ↓ Number of Days Exceeding Ozone Level State Standards
- ↓ Per Capita Electricity Consumption
- ↓ Per Capita Residential Water Consumption
- ↑ Number of Physicians
- ↓ Asthma Rates
- ↑ Percent of First-Time Buyers
- ↑ Land Use Efficiency
- Acres in Agriculture Production
- ↑ Transportation Mobility
- ↓ Violent Crime Rates



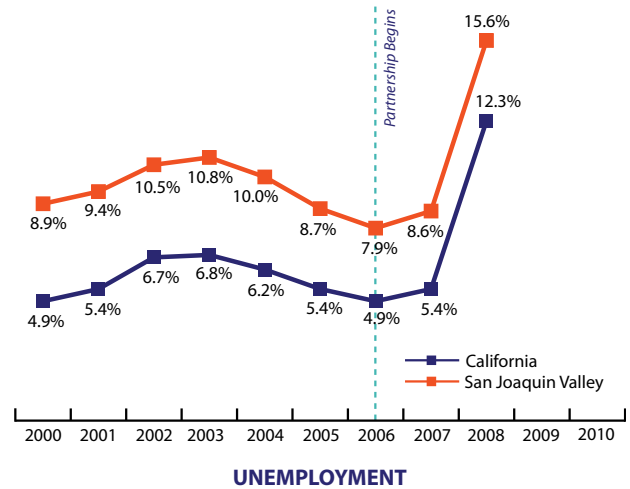
Economic Indicators

Annual Unemployment Rate for the San Joaquin Valley and California

Goal: Achieve or Improve Upon State Rate by 2016

The unemployment rate measures the percentage of workers 16 and older not working or working less than full time and actively seeking employment. High unemployment means there are more workers seeking work than there are jobs available and can result in great competition for existing jobs, potentially leading to lower overall wages.

Source: California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division

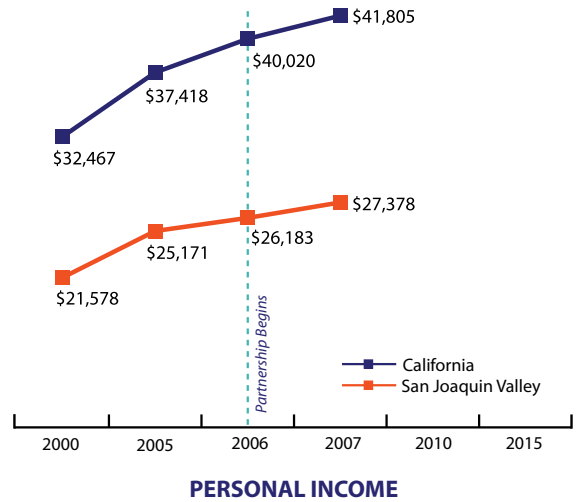


Per Capita Personal Income for the San Joaquin Valley and California

Goal: Meet or Exceed State Average by 2016

Per capita personal income is the average annual income per individual in a community or jurisdiction. Regions with a higher per capita income tend to have more education, recreational, and entertainment opportunities. Per capita income is often seen as the major indicator of a region's economic health.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey

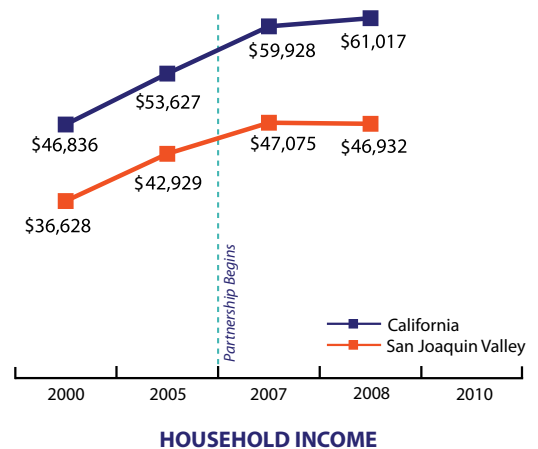


Median Household Income for San Joaquin Valley and California

Goal: Meet or Exceed State Average by 2016

The median household income is the level at which half the household incomes are higher and half are lower. The figure is considered an appropriate representation of household economic status in the region because it is not dramatically affected by unusually high or low incomes.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey; U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates

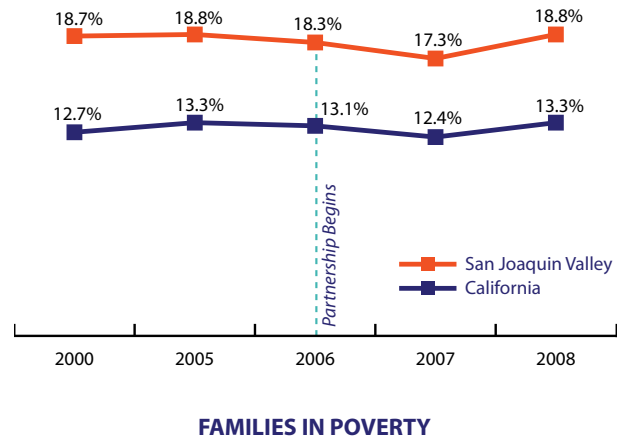


Percent of Total Population in Poverty in San Joaquin Valley and California

Goal: Meet or Exceed State Average by 2016

A family is considered to be below the poverty level if their total income is less than the standard threshold the U.S. Census Bureau has set for the household measure of need. The more households living below the poverty level in a community means more individuals who are living without the essentials for a minimum standard of well-being and life.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey



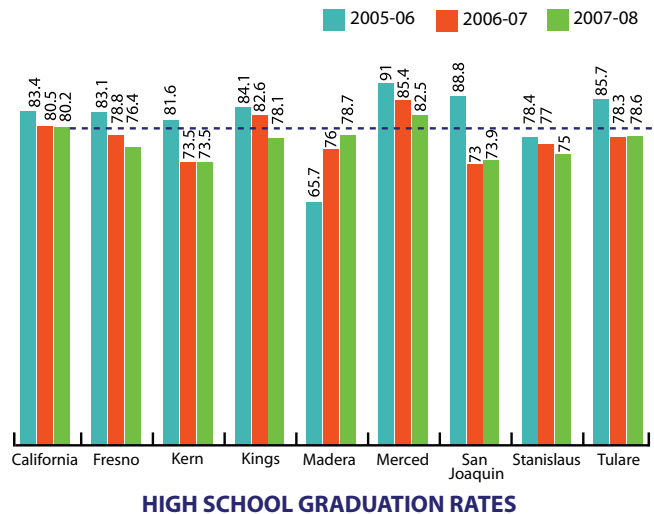
Education Indicators

High School Graduation Rates in San Joaquin Valley Counties and California

Goal: Achieve or Improve Upon State Average by 2016

High school graduation rates are determined based on the National Center for Education Statistics definitions, the total graduation rate divided by the graduation rate plus the total number of dropouts from grades 9-12. High school graduation is a minimum requirement for entry into the workforce increasing the likelihood of economic success.

Source: California Department of Education, Educational Demographics Unit



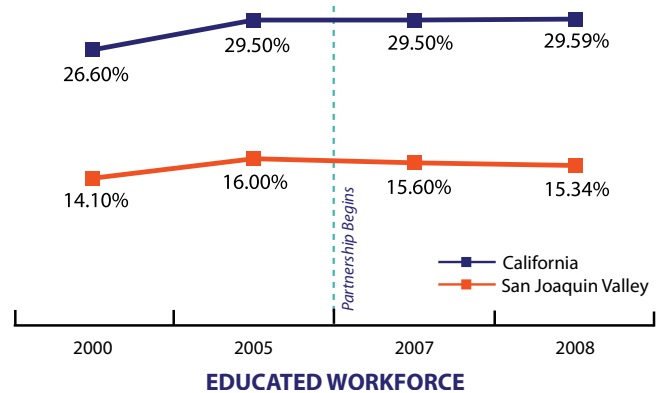
College Graduation Rates in the San Joaquin Valley and California

(Percentage of population over the age of 25 with a bachelor's degree or higher)

Goal: Increase College Graduation Rate by 20% by 2016

The need for technical knowledge is increasing, making higher levels of education a necessity for individuals to be competitive in the workforce. Those with a bachelor's degree have access to higher paying jobs with greater stability. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, high school graduates can expect, on average, over an adult's working life to earn \$1.2 million, the average for those with a bachelor's degree increases to \$2.1 million during their lifetime.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey



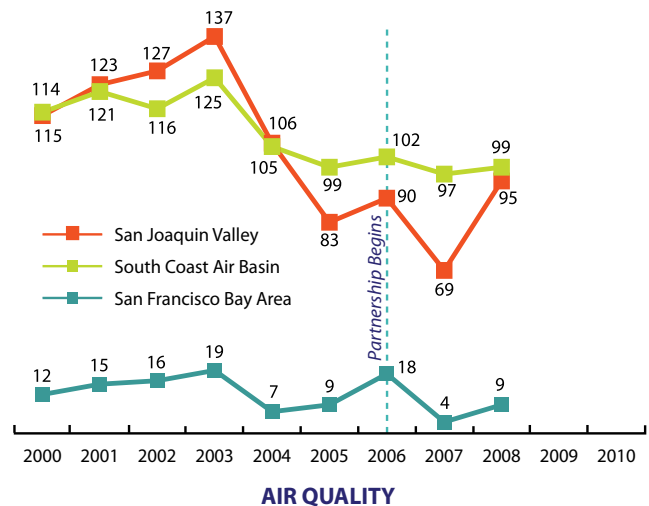
Environment and Natural Resources Indicators

Number of Days Exceeding Ozone Level State Standards in the San Joaquin Valley, San Francisco Bay Area and South Coast Air Basin

Goal: Achieve EPA Ozone Standards by 2013

Ozone 10 to 25 miles above earth forms a protective layer; but ozone at ground level damages living things and makes it difficult for people to breathe. Ground level ozone levels are measured by gauging how many parts per million (ppm) of ozone people are exposed to. The state standard for ozone is determined as the amount of ozone that can be in the air without causing harm. The state standard is exceeded when ozone levels surpass 0.09 ppm and 0.07 ppm for one-hour and eight-hour standards, respectively.

Source: California Air Resources Board Almanac 2009: Air Basin Trends and Forecasts

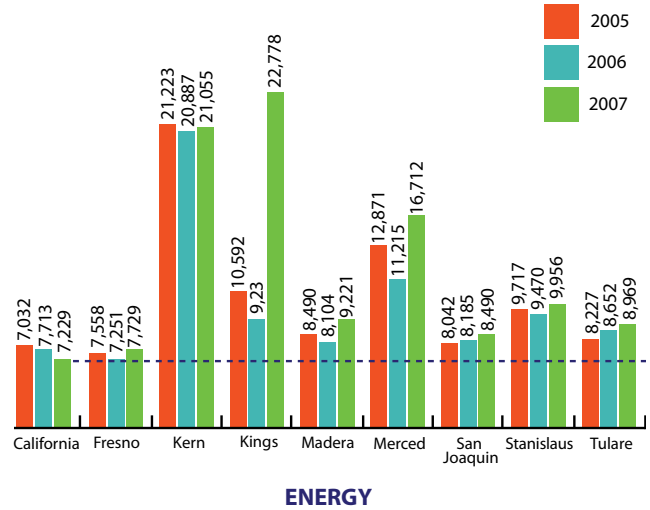


Per Capita Electricity Consumption (kWh) in the San Joaquin Valley Counties and California

Goal: Improve Upon State Average in Efficiency by 2016

Electricity consumption for residential and nonresidential accounts has been included. Most energy in the San Joaquin Valley comes from traditional, limited resources such as coal, oil, and natural gas. The growing population in the Valley means the amount of energy available per person will continue to decrease requiring more renewable energy sources, increased efficiency, and conservation to sustain the current quality of life.

Source: California Energy Commission



Per Capita Residential Water Consumption in Gallons for the San Joaquin River and Tulare Lake Hydrological Region

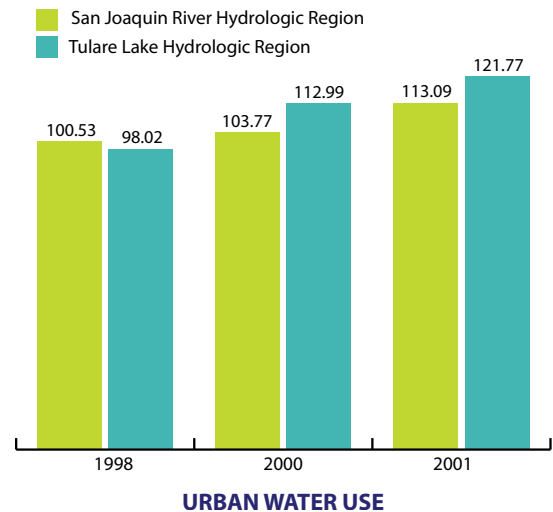
(Per person/per year)

Goal: Reduce Consumption by 10% by 2016

Urban water use is a measure of water used for residential use, industrial use, commercial use, and energy production. With significant population growth expected in the San Joaquin Valley, demand for water also will increase. Water is essential to life in the Valley, and conservation and efficient use of water allows water supplies to stretch farther and reduces the amount of energy used for pumping and treating water.

Source: Department of Water Resources

* Data only available through 2001



Health Indicators

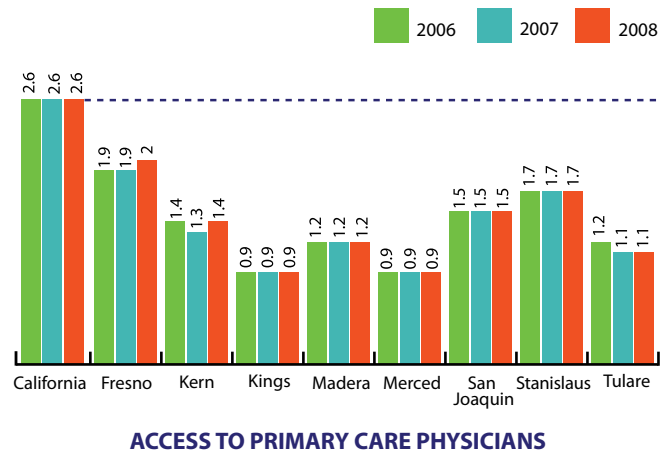
Number of Physicians in San Joaquin Valley Counties and California

(Per 1,000 people)

Goal: Meet or Exceed State Average by 2016

Primary care physicians are primarily responsible for the prevention, early detection, and treatment of common chronic conditions. When there is limited availability of physicians in a region, people are less likely to seek preventive care and more likely to go to a local emergency room or urgent care center for acute symptoms and health conditions.

Source: RAND California Statistics, Health and Socioeconomic Statistics



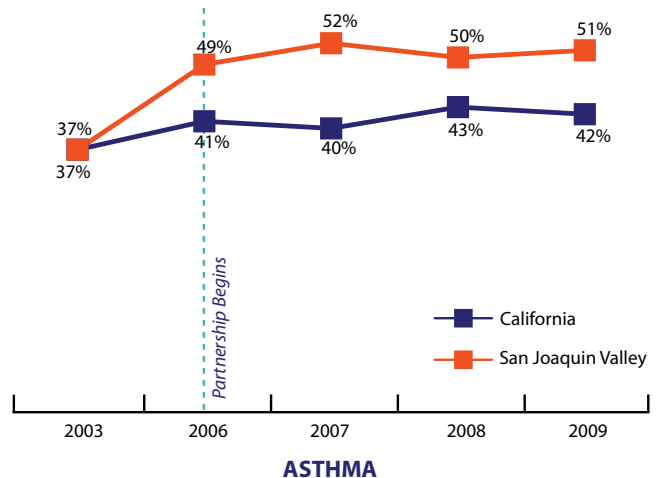
Asthma Rates in San Joaquin Valley Counties and California

(Percentage of population reporting they, or a family member, have asthma)

Goal: Achieve or Improve Upon State Average by 2016

Asthma is a chronic inflammatory lung disease characterized by recurrent episodes of breathlessness, wheezing, coughing, or tightness of the chest. Living with asthma adversely affects the quality of life and is the leading serious chronic disease of childhood. Studies have demonstrated that reducing exposure to environmental triggers can reduce the frequency and severity of asthma symptoms.

Source: Public Policy Institute of California, Statewide Survey 2009



Housing Indicators

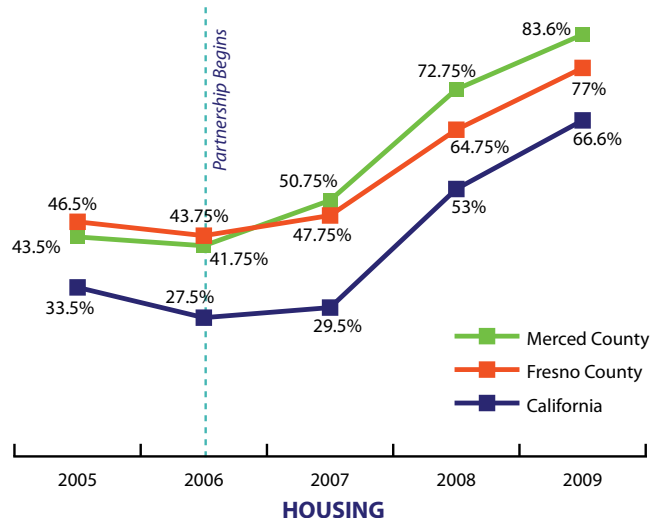
Percent of First-Time Buyers in Fresno County, Merced County and California

(Purchased a median-priced home)

Goal: Meet or Exceed State Average by 2016

First-time buyers that can afford to purchase a median-priced home are those whose monthly principal, interest, taxes, and insurance costs are less than 40 percent of the household's total income. The figure takes into account the significant changes that have taken place with mortgage financing, such as a first-time buyers' likelihood to pay less for the down payment and to finance with an adjustable-rate mortgage. Home-ownership helps ensure residents have a long-term vested interest in their community and the appreciation of property can promote upward mobility.

Source: California Association of Realtors®
* Data only available for two Valley counties



Land Use Indicators

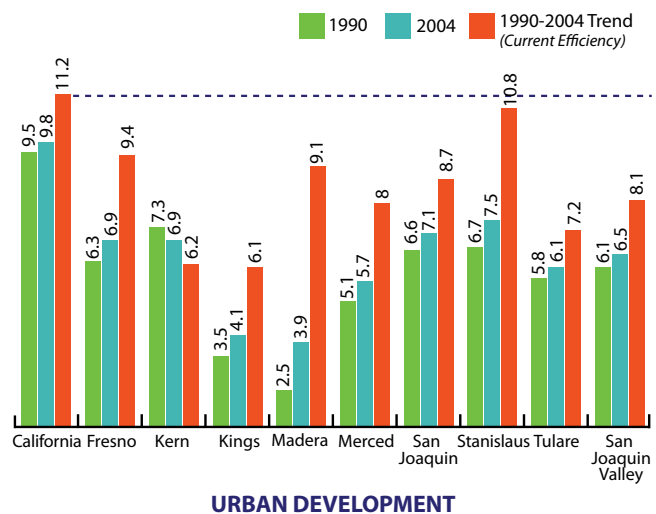
Land Use Efficiency in San Joaquin Valley Counties and California

(People per urban acre)

Goals: Increase Density by 15% in 75% percent of Communities by 2010

One way of showing the efficiency of farmland conversion is by measuring people per acre of urban land. This is calculated by dividing the total area of urban and built-up land by the urban population. The San Joaquin Valley's increasing population will almost inevitably convert high-quality farmland into areas for residences, shopping, schools, workplaces, and roads. Knowing what land is best suited for development, agriculture, and species habitat can inform land-use choices.

Source: American Farmland Trust (2007)
* Data only available through 2007

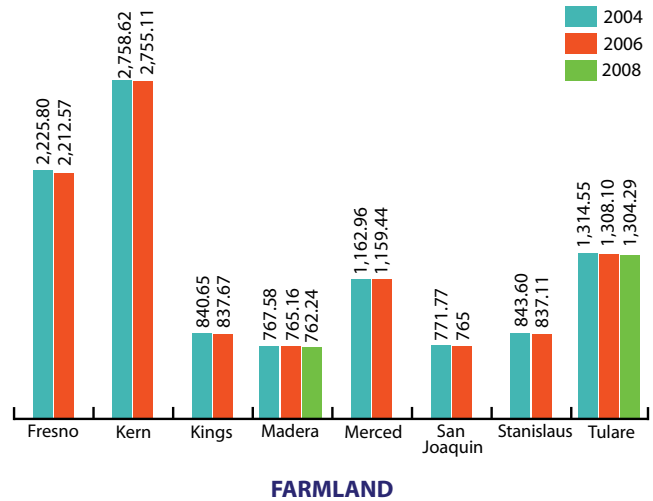


Acres in San Joaquin Valley Agriculture-Production Land by County

Goal: Maintain Current Levels

The graph includes prime farmland, farmland of statewide importance, unique farmland, farmland of local importance, and grazing land. While irrigated and prime farmland is often urbanized, grazing land and other soil resources may be added to production. Irrigated and prime farmland is an irreplaceable resource in the San Joaquin Valley, and the conversion of agricultural land has the potential to change the Valley's historical economic base.

Source: California Department of Conservation, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
**At the time of publication, data was only available for two of the eight San Joaquin Valley counties.*



Transportation Indicators

Transportation Mobility for the San Joaquin Valley and California

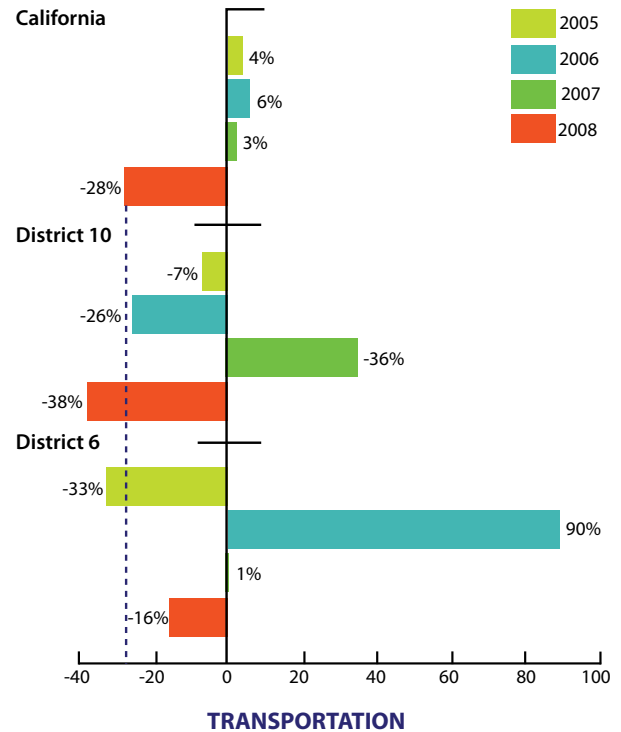
(Percentage change in daily vehicle hour of delay)

Goal: Decrease or Remain Lower in Hours of Delay than State Average

Mobility refers to time and cost of transportation. Private vehicles are the primary means of transportation in the San Joaquin Valley and vehicle miles traveled are increasing for the region; therefore, hours of delay is a good indicator to represent transportation mobility. Percentage change in daily vehicle hours of delay measures the amount of time it takes to travel a freeway during peak times compared to the time it takes to travel the same distance at 35 miles per hour.

Source: California Department of Transportation, 2008 State Highway Congestion Monitoring Program (HICOMP) Report

**District 10 includes counties outside the San Joaquin Valley. Total counties in District 10 include Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa, and Alpine.*



Violent Crime Indicator

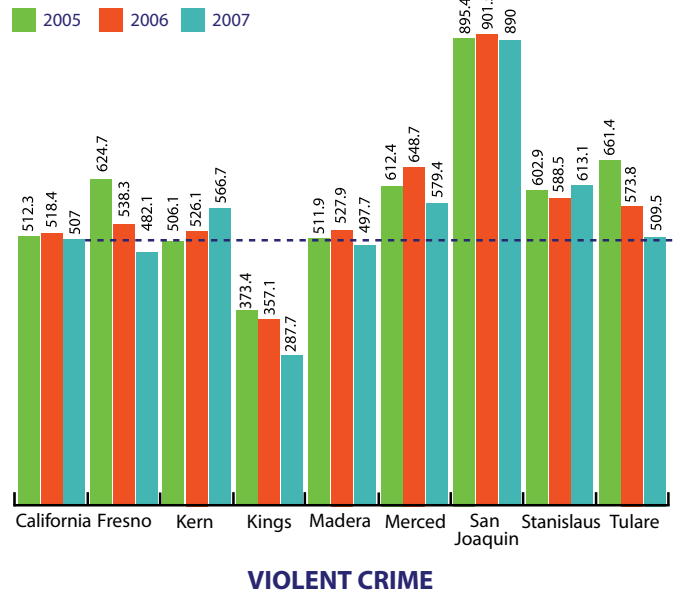
Violent Crime Rates in San Joaquin Valley Counties and California

(Per 100,000 people)

Goal: Achieve or Improve Upon State Rate by 2016

Violent crimes include homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Crime affects a community's safety and sense of security. Violent crime undermines a community's quality of life by creating a climate of fear and mistrust.

Source: California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Criminal Justice Statistics Center



Partnership for the Assessment of Communities

In 2006, the Partnership for the Assessment of Communities (PAC) was created as a metric-tracking component for the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley's Strategic Action Proposal. PAC comprises scholars with professional backgrounds in several disciplines, including anthropology, political science, and sociology, and belong to three different research and educational institutions in the San Joaquin Valley.

PAC Research Team:

- Dr. Henry Delcore, Professor of Anthropology, California State University, Fresno
- Dr. Robin Maria DeLugan, Professor of Anthropology, University of California, Merced
- Dr. Marcia Hernandez, Professor of Sociology, University of the Pacific, Stockton
- Dr. James Mullooly, Professor of Anthropology, California State University, Fresno
- Dr. Dari E. Sylvester, Professor of Political Science, University of the Pacific, Stockton
- Dr. Simon Weffer, Professor of Sociology, University of California, Merced

In 2007, the PAC research team began collection of key indicator data for select San Joaquin Valley communities to be used by the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. The 10-year longitudinal community-based study will measure and track changes in quality of life and related community factors, such as volunteerism, civic participation, and community engagement. The dynamics are being monitored in both urban neighborhoods and unincorporated rural communities and will access valuable local level data that is often hidden in regional studies.

The communities included in the pilot phase of the study include:

- El Dorado Park, City of Fresno (Fresno County)
- South Merced, City of Merced (Merced County)
- Orange Cove (Fresno County)
- Planada (Merced County)
- Riverbank (Stanislaus County)
- Midtown Magnolia Region, Central Stockton (San Joaquin County)

PAC research methodology is both quantitative and qualitative. The study monitors changes to the following strategic indicators: crime and safety; economic conditions; education, environmental and natural resources issues; health-care access and availability; housing; stability of residence and transient rate; transportation; well-being; community participation, and civic involvement.

During the 10-year study, PAC plans to return on an annual basis to the target communities being studied to provide





this study. A less hopeful, but marginal trend, is the increase in the HCI from Year 1 to Year 2. However, it should be noted we are still refining the development and usability of the HCI. Therefore, we intend to increase the number of respondents in the study to further disaggregate the urban/rural category. The study has tremendous implications for identifying and strengthening the community “assets” that can be fundamental to transforming local communities in accordance with the vision of the Partnership.

Pilot results for Healthy Community Index (HCI)
 (Lower number = healthier)

	Year 1	Year 2
	2007	2008
Urban	33.59	36.36
Rural	27.31	28.54
Avg.	30.34	32.30

Analysis of informal social control and social cohesion is based on mean score composite variables for these measures.

Another contribution of the PAC research is that it applies a methodology and conceptual framework that has been utilized in large urban settings (such as Chicago) but, to date, has not been applied to rural communities or to the smaller urban neighborhoods that characterize the San Joaquin Valley. Preliminary data already demonstrate trends toward social efficacy in the San Joaquin Valley as compared to Chicago.

a forum to report current findings, as well as to solicit community input on what issues are prominent and how to address the issues each community is facing. This process allows community input and feedback to shape the research. Findings from the PAC research project will continue to be distributed in multiple venues throughout the course of the research study.

The time span of the project will result in a representative understanding of the community-level experience within the region. Because the project’s utility depends on long-term tracking, the PAC team is seeking additional funds to continue its work. Based on the data generated during the first two years of the study, preliminary findings suggest that measures of community health, based on informal social control and cohesion, will point to social efficacy and factors that will be significant to better understanding the success of the Partnership’s efforts in years to come. We are expecting Year 3 data to further this understanding and are currently processing the information. It is imperative that we are able to acquire funds that will support continued research and analysis.

We are creating a Healthy Community Index (HCI) to track and measure factors that allow us to compare community dynamics to traditional quality of life indicators. Initial findings suggest some patterns that require more data in the coming years, to clarify. Year 1 and 2 data (represented below) illustrate two important early trends to date: 1) despite lower quality of life indicators, the rural areas are generally “healthier” than urban areas in terms of social cohesion and efficacy. Also, pilot data indicate that rural communities are “healthier” than urban neighborhoods in

Informal Social Control and Social Cohesion, by Area (in comparison to Chicago)

(Lower score is more Control/Cohesion = Efficacy)

		Year 1	Year 2
Social Control	Urban	17.8	19.2
	Rural	12.8	12.9
	Chicago	20.3	
Social Cohesion	Urban	14.8	16.2
	Rural	12.91	12.95
	Chicago	17.2	



Financial Report

On November 1, 2009, the Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) received two grants to further Partnership activities to start FY 09/10. The primary grant is a two-year Workforce Investment Areas (WIA) Discretionary Grant of \$1,000,000 a year, of which \$730,000 a year is being allocated to Partnership work groups and specified partners. The second is a three-year U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) Grant of which \$75,000 a year is being directed to the Partnership with an allocation

of \$10,625 a year to the Economic Development Work Group. A goal of both grants is to leverage the \$2,075,000 received with matching resources and funds at 100%.

The Partnership also received generous sponsorship by the San Joaquin Valley Council of Governments for \$117,000 for FY 09/10, as well as sponsorship by a variety of San Joaquin Valley partners for the 2009 Annual Summit "Serving the Valley. Shaping our Future." It is anticipated that because both sponsorship initiatives achieved significant success, we can forecast continued donations of the same amount on an annual basis.

Budget and Expenditures

TIMEFRAME	FY 9-10, JAN. 1 - JUNE 30 FORECAST			FY 10-11 FORECAST			FY 11-12, JULY 1 - DEC. 31 FORECAST		
INCOME									
Internal Funding-OCED Contribution on Behalf of SJVP			\$181,282			\$264,528			\$105,325
External Funding Sources									
Grants			\$527,606			\$1,088,278			\$534,122
Sponsorships						\$142,397			\$142,397
Total External Income			\$527,606			\$1,230,675			\$676,519
TOTAL INCOME			\$708,888			\$1,495,203			\$781,843
SECRETARIAT EXPENSES	Expense	OCED IN Kind	Total	Expense	OCED IN Kind	Total	Expense	OCED IN Kind	Total
Salaries/Benefits	\$151,193	\$18,892	\$170,085	\$333,175	\$33,780	\$366,955	\$157,888	\$18,727	\$176,615
Administrative Costs	\$7,100	\$10,738	\$17,838	\$4,165	\$21,400	\$25,565	\$1,150	\$10,750	\$11,900
Tulare EDC (Contract under EDA Grant) -- Less 15% indirect	\$0	\$10,625	\$10,625	\$0	\$10,625	\$10,625	\$0	\$10,625	\$10,625
Annual Summit and Reporting	\$0	\$24,000	\$24,000	\$0	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$0	\$41,000	\$41,000
Contingency	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
Subtotal of Expenses	\$158,293	\$64,255	\$222,548	\$387,340	\$130,805	\$518,145	\$209,038	\$81,102	\$290,140
WORK GROUPS AND PARTNERS (Contracts under WIA grant)									
CVELI/ K-12	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000	\$160,000	\$0	\$160,000	\$80,000	\$0	\$80,000
GVC/ACS	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000
ED	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000
SJVCEO	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000
Water	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000
Air Quality	\$12,500	\$0	\$12,500	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$0	\$12,500
CCWC	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Misc. School Districts	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000	\$180,000	\$0	\$180,000	\$90,000	\$0	\$90,000
Lyles Center	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$50,000
CVHEC	\$12,500	\$0	\$12,500	\$25,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$12,500	\$0	\$12,500
Total of WIA Subcontracts	\$365,000	\$0	\$365,000	\$730,000	\$0	\$730,000	\$365,000	\$0	\$365,000
Subtotal of Expenses	\$523,293	\$64,255	\$587,548	\$1,117,340	\$130,805	\$1,248,145	\$574,038	\$81,102	\$655,140
Indirect	\$9,313	\$112,027	\$121,340	\$20,938	\$226,120	\$247,058	\$10,084	\$116,620	\$126,704
TOTAL OF ALL EXPENSES	\$532,606	\$176,282	\$708,888	\$1,138,278	\$356,925	\$1,495,203	\$584,122	\$197,722	\$781,843





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