City of Othello, Adams County
Washington State Incentive Grant
1st Year Community-Level Evaluation 1999-2000

Department of Social and Health Services

Research and Data Analysis Division and the University of Washington, Washington Institute for Mental Illness Research and Training, Western Branch

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Executive Summary

Othello is one of eighteen Washington State Incentive Grant (SIG) sites. Eighty-five percent of the SIG funds are allocated to communities to prevent the use, misuse, and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drugs by Washington State youth. This document is a baseline community-level evaluation report for the project including challenges and successes for the first year.

Project Site

The lead agency for the local SIG project is the city of Othello, a rural, agricultural community with a large, migratory Hispanic population. The city is collaborating with Adams County and the Boys and Girls Club to implement the project. Debra Travis was the project director during year one. SIG funds were used to start a Boys and Girls Club in Othello to provide after-school programs.

Indicators

Rates of alcohol and other drug violations in Adams County far exceed statewide rates. Arrests for vandalism, property, and violent crimes also exceed state averages. Some children are left unsupervised while parents work swing shift at local potato processing plants. Children who follow agricultural jobs with their families tend to fall behind socially and academically because they must move so frequently. English is a second language for many of the children and Spanish the only language for many of their parents.

Prevention History

Adams County has a very active prevention specialist, funded by the Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Department of Social and Health Services, and the Office of Community Development, Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. About ten years ago, a few community members formed an organization called People Against Illegal Drugs (P.A.I.D.). This group funds small prevention projects. There is a local DARE program and a Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) group. The county and city decided to apply for the SIG grant when the after-school recreation program was deleted due to budget cuts.

SIG-Related Prevention Programs

The new Boys and Girls Club is implementing programs from their national curriculum: Stay SMART; SMART Families; SMART Kids; Start SMART; Social Recreation, Education, and Mentoring; and an arts and crafts recreation program.

Challenges

- Contracting with the Boys and Girls Club has eliminated a number of challenges because this organization knows how to start and operate after-school programs. In Othello, the main problem has been communication between the city, the county, and the club. Not everyone has access to e-mail. In addition, communication problems occurred between the state and county due to difficulties with e-mail transmission.
- Parent involvement has been minimal and inconsistent.
- Operating costs are high due to the success and number of kids attending the programs.
- Collaboration between the club and the rest of the community still needs work

Successes

- The Boys and Girls Club opened and has been a tremendous success.
- Over 400 children are members. Over 120 youth show up each day that the center is open.
- Children have been exposed to the SMART curriculum and to several community events, including the Sand Hill Crane Festival, Christmas Program, and, soon, the Fiesta Amistad. They also visited a fish hatchery.
- A homework club was established.

City of Othello, Adams County
Baseline Community-Level Evaluation

Introduction

Othello is one of eighteen Washington State Incentive Grant community grantees. Eighty-five percent of State Incentive Grant (SIG) funds are allocated to communities to prevent the use, misuse, and abuse, of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drugs by Washington State youth. The grant consists of a three year, $8.9 million award from the federal Center for Substance Abuse Prevention to Washington State through a cooperative agreement with Governor Gary Locke's office. State agencies participating in the State Incentive Grant (SIG) have goals of coordinating resource and reducing duplication of effort. Communities will reduce key risk factors and promote protective factors in their efforts to reduce youth substance use, misuse, and abuse. Specific goals and objectives for state agencies and communities are stated in the *Washington State Incentive Grant Substance Abuse Plan,* pages 4 and 5, published in March 1999, by the Governor's Substance Abuse Prevention Advisory Committee. Appendix A contains a detailed list of those objectives. Here is a summary of them:

Goals:

1. Prevent alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drug use, misuse, and abuse by the state's youth.
2. Make the community-level system more effective.

Objectives:

1. Establish local prevention partnerships.
2. Use a risk and protective factor framework for the community prevention plan.
3. Participate in joint community risk and protective factor and resource assessment.
4. Select and implement effective prevention actions.
5. Use common reporting tools.

The SIG evaluation, of which this report is a part of, is a research evaluation intended to provide feedback to state agencies and communities on their progress toward the goals and objectives stated in the *Washington State Incentive Grant Substance Abuse Plan.* Interim reports are provided as an integral part of that feedback. Research methods are described in Appendix B.

This document is a baseline community-level evaluation report, examining the history of the area, relevant social indicators, and details about program implementation. Reports are provided as feedback on Othello's efforts to date and as a record of those efforts for state and federal funding agencies. Future reports

will include discussions of program effectiveness, community partnerships and plans for continued funding beyond SIG.

History and Background of Site

Adams County is in rural, southeastern Washington State. In its 1,925 square miles are farms, desert, and many ancient "pot-hole" lakes. Agriculture is the economic base of this county. Farms feature an array of dry and irrigated products, including potatoes, grains, fruits, and vegetables.

The city of Othello served as an airfield during World War II. Construction workers came to build the base and then left. Air Force personnel came and left a remnant airplane to adorn the Town Park. About 40 years ago, construction workers put in extensive irrigation systems and then left. Until recently, few people stayed in Othello. Only a few, the wheat farmers, who were able to produce without irrigation, were able to settle there.

Today large wheat and potato farms dominate the landscape. You can see a clear dividing line between dry and irrigated farming. Potato processing plants provide the majority of year-around jobs. Migrant farm workers come to plant, weed, and harvest crops from April through November.

After the irrigation systems were installed, people were able to farm the desert, leading to an increase in Adams County's population. Former migrant workers began to stay in Othello due to year-round employment in the potato processing plants and local farms. Now, second- and third-generation Hispanic families call Othello their home. Many residents call Othello "Little Mexico" because of the large Mexican influence. Nearly two-thirds of the population living within the Othello School District boundaries is Hispanic; over half use English as their second language. Many speak only Spanish. Hispanic people are a minority in business ownership and government, but they are beginning to feel at home and are starting to take leadership roles.

Othello and the surrounding area is a pipeline for drugs from Mexico because of the large migrant population. Drug runners creatively devise ways to transport their goods. One informant told me her husband found a double-lined gas tank in the irrigation canal. This tank provided an undetectable place for hiding and transporting drugs.

Recent changes in child labor laws have made some conditions worse for migrant farm children. Often they are left at home rather than following their parents to work. Six-year old children have been found babysitting four-year old siblings. Some parents work swing shift in the potato processing plant, but do not earn enough to pay for childcare, forcing them to leave children alone at night.
It has been difficult to develop a sense of community in Othello because of the transitory nature of past residents. Othello has a small downtown area, but most residents go to Moses Lake or the Tri-Cities to shop. In spite of the challenges,

there is strong civic pride and a core group of dedicated citizens who are looking ahead. Civic leaders would like to encourage people to come to Othello and stay a while. The mayor and the city council are progressive. The community recently built a new city hall and a new hospital. With help from an outside consultant, the city is developing a plan that will help attract people. The city council would like Othello to become known for its festivals. Othello hosts three festivals at this time. They are as follows:

- Sand Hills Crane Festival is in the spring. In the past, mostly out-of-town bird watchers attended, but participation of local residents has increased. The Boys & Girls Club took a busload of kids to the festival this year.
- The Sun Faire Festival provides old-fashioned family fun for the 4th of July holiday.
- Fiesta Amistad started last year. Everyone interviewed said that it was the year's greatest event for Othello. Organized by both by Hispanic and Anglo leaders, it celebrated both the cultural traditions of Mexico and the rural American lifestyle.

Demographics

Adams County's population is 15,800. Unemployment in Adams County is more than twice the state average. The source for these facts is the Othello SIG proposal.[1]

Nearly 45% of the 9,000 people living within the city of Othello are under the age of 18. According to a 1994 Othello Housing Authority study, the population almost doubles to 18,000 during fall harvest.

Three elementary schools, one junior high school and one high school served 2,802 full-time Othello students during the 1998-99 school year. Of these, 70% self-identified as Hispanic and 30% as non-Hispanic white. The school enrollment shrinks and expands with the migration of farm workers. According to one instructor, half of the students in elementary school speak or understand little or no English. Seventy-four percent of the students in the Othello School District in 1999 were eligible for free or reduced fee lunches.

During December, January or February, many students leave the school district with their migrant families and return again in March. School administrators do not know how many children continue school once they leave Othello. This migration causes disruption in the classroom because many of these students fall behind academically. As could be expected, children who have to learn a new language and whose lives are routinely disrupted often have behavior problems.

Students and teachers confirm there are gangs and violence on the junior high school campus. Information about youth attitudes toward the use of alcohol and

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[1] Proposal to Solicitation No. 991346, For Grants to Communities to provide services for the prevention of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana and other Drug Use, Misuse and Abuse, City of Othello, Adams County. June 1999.

other drugs is not yet available. Othello did not participate in the Washington State Survey of Adolescent Health Behaviors (WSSAHB) until this past year. However, school officials know from other evidence that the use of alcohol and other drugs is a problem with grade school and junior high students. Therefore, SIG efforts are directed at this age group.

History of the SIG Application

Before 1999, Othello funded a small after-school program for youth. One interviewee stated that it corralled kids after school until parents could pick them up. About forty children attended the recreation activities. Budget cuts ended the program. Realizing the critical need for an after-school program, one of the recreation leaders went to the Boys and Girls Club of the Columbia Basin, in nearby Moses Lake (Grant County), to see if they could start a club in Othello. For months, it seemed like nothing would happen because of funding problems. When the SIG opportunity came along, the county, city, and the Boys and Girls Club organization jumped on the chance for the project. Without the SIG grant, Othello would not have a Boys and Girls Club, nor would they have an after-school program.

The county and city worked closely together to develop the SIG application. The County Prevention Specialist and the Community Public Health and Safety Network director wrote the grant with help from the city and the Boys and Girls Club. Realizing the huge management responsibility, the county decided that they could not manage the grant with their current staff. They asked the city to manage it after the grant was written.

Othello's SIG Project

The local SIG project focuses on 4th through 8th graders, but it includes some K-3rd graders and high school siblings and families. In order to be eligible to participate, students must be of school age, between the ages of 6-18, and reside within the Othello School District. The district boundaries include the city of Othello, the panhandle of Adams County, and areas of Franklin and Grant Counties. Only children and teens actively attending school are allowed a membership in the Boys and Girls Club.

SIG Partners

The small city of Othello doesn't have sufficient financial resources to meet all its needs, but there are many people who care about children. The following agencies agreed to participate as partners in the local SIG project:

- The city of Othello is the lead agency. They are providing fiscal review, administrative support, and volunteers.
- Adams County Community Counseling is serving as the fiscal agent, and they are providing prevention support.

- Othello School District is administering the Washington State Survey of Adolescent Health Behaviors and providing referrals and follow-up services for the project.
- Othello Police Department conducts demonstrations and presentations regarding prevention.
- Adams County Community Public Health and Safety Network supplies volunteers, support, and funding for prevention projects.

Local Prevention Services

Parents Against Illegal Drugs (P.A.I.D.) supports and funds numerous small prevention projects in Othello. A group of concerned citizens formed P.A.I.D. about ten years ago because they felt they needed to do something to prevent drug use among youth. This small group still meets regularly to determine which community projects to support. "Hey Kids" is an example of a program supported by this group. This summer program allows 6th grade students to go through a Challenge Course, beginning at a wilderness camp and ending with a celebration in the Tri-Cities. The people who started P.A.I.D. had no money to begin with, but they saw a need and decided to use available community resources to solve problems. Over time, the business community began to donate money to the group. Last year, they served about 250 kids.

Othello citizens provide the following services that help encourage kids to avoid alcohol and other drugs:

- Community Groups – People Against Illegal Drugs (P.A.I.D.), Lions, Rotary, Eagles
- Community Services – Health Dept. Counseling Services
- Law Enforcement – Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), Community Oriented Policing (COP)
- Schools – grandparent mentoring program curriculum, establishing intruder alert polices in schools, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
- City Parks Department – summer program
- Community Supported Activities – Hey Kids Summer Youth Program, Challenge Course, mock car accidents
- State Services – family reconciliation services
- Organized Sports – Babe Ruth, Grid Kids, Little League, karate
- Faith Community – church youth groups, Youth Church, Young Life, youth rallies, and church facilities

County-Wide Risk Factors

Adams County has significantly higher rates of juvenile arrest for crimes, including alcohol and other drug violations, than the rest of the state and similar counties.[2] The following table summarizes 1997 arrest statistics for Adams County and the state in selected categories.

Selected Juvenile Crime Arrest Rates (per 1000)
Adams County and Washington State[3]

Juvenile Crime	State Arrest Rates	Adams Co. Arrest Rates
Vandalism & Conduct	7	23
Property Crimes	36	48
Violent Crimes (ages 10-17)	4	6
Alcohol Violations	9	52
Drug Violations	6	13

With rates of juvenile alcohol violations nearly four times that of the state and other drug violations at more than twice the state's, this rural county faces major problems with use of alcohol and other drugs by young people. Arrests for vandalism are more than three times the state rate. One cannot tell from these statistics whether law enforcement agents are more diligent about arresting youth in Adams County than the rest of the state. Regardless, the arrests do suggest use and indicate the seriousness of the problem.

Results of high-risk behavior are evident in other ways in Adams County. Gang participation and violence are other indicators that Adams County needs prevention programs. Compared to the state, Adams County's teen birthrates are three times as high. The high school dropout rate for Adams County in 1996 was 9 students per 100; the statewide rate was 8 per 100 students.

Information from the 1998 Washington State Survey of Adolescent Health Behaviors is not available for Adams County because too few schools participated. Local prevention planners did not find the combined results for schools in the eastern region of the state useful.

Othello's Risk Factors and Protective Factors

In developing its SIG proposal, Othello considered the above information, plus information about unemployment, adult rates of admittance to alcohol and other drug treatment programs, class attendance, and levels of parental involvement at

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[2] Information for this section was drawn from Linda Becker et al. 1999. *County Profile on Risk and Protection for Substance Abuse Prevention Planning, Adams County.* Olympia, WA: Department of Social and Health Services, Research and Data Analysis.
[3] Modified from Linda Becker et al. 1999. *County Profile on Risk and Protection for Substance Abuse Prevention Planning, Adams County.* Olympia, WA: Department of Social and Health Services, Research and Data Analysis.

school.[4] Based on these data, they found the following risk factors high in their area, and these protective factors lacking:

Risk Factors

- Economic and social deprivation
- Early initialization of problem behavior
- Friends who use
- Favorable attitudes toward problem behavior by family
- Academic failure
- Low school attachment

Protective Factors

- Healthy beliefs
- Attachment to adults with good morals
- Skills
- Encourage goal setting
- Bonding with kids

SIG-Funded Programs

The Boys and Girls Club uses the SMART Moves series in their programs nationwide. This is a curriculum used nationwide in their clubs. The specific SMART Moves programs selected for the Othello SIG project are listed in the table below, along with the other two programs Othello selected. The center column in the table lists each program's level of rigor. This refers to a rating program established by the federal Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. A rating of 1 indicates that the program has the least amount of scientific research behind it. The highest rating of 5 is granted when a prevention program has been shown effective across multiple settings and populations.

Othello SIG Prevention Programs

Program	Rigor	Training Content
SMART kids (6-9) Start SMART (10-12) Stay SMART (13-15) SMART Families (FAN) Education & Mentoring Arts & Crafts Social Recreation	5 5 5 5 2 2 2	Program use role playing, group activities and discussion to promote social skills, peer resistance, and problem solving skills that are age-appropriate and progressive.

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[4] Community-Based Prevention Action Plan Implementation Matrix. City of Othello, Adams County.

Challenges and Successes

Early this year, a special edition of the local paper, *The Outlook*, featured the Boys and Girls Club and other community successes in Othello. The front page of this special edition featured Debbie Sanchez, director of Othello's Boys and Girls Club, and a few of the members in front of their new clubhouse. This project has been a huge success. Over 100 kids attend programs each day. There are almost 500 members now. The club is open 50 weeks per year. For a $5.00 membership fee, kids get over 1,000 hours of opportunities to participate in safe, fun, and educational activities. These activities include special cultural events and outings; self-esteem building; prevention of alcohol and other drug use; homework sessions; games; computers; and a host of collaborative efforts with the school, the juvenile justice department, church groups, and other community organizations. Field trips this past year included the Sand Hill Crane Festival and trips to the fish hatchery, where some kids went fishing for the first time. The director of the Othello Boys and Girls Club stated in *The Outlook* article that her biggest challenge is:

> Getting the people, parents, and businesses in the community to understand that children and the prevention programs we are providing are vital to the future for all of us. If we don't put love, time, attention, nutrition, knowledge, and commitment of ourselves into the children of today, our kids won't develop into our future community leaders.[5]

Project Challenges

Below are summaries of various obstacles experienced by those implementing Othello's SIG project.

- Best practice prevention programs have not been easy to implement with Othello children. Many kids are not prepared for the age-specific curriculum because their English skills or social skills are not age-appropriate. For example, some age 12 students required curriculum designed for students age 9. Children of migratory farm laborers, a high percentage of which speak English as a second language, if at all, come and go from Othello as their parents migrate with farm work. This turnover, coupled with children's delayed skill acquisition, challenges the program staff and school officials. They need flexibility and options to make the curriculum work for their population. Likewise, because of the migrating population, it is difficult to run programs that are progressive since the kids may not return after the first year.
- Parent involvement is a problem. Some parents never show up; others are inconsistent. Many parents do not understand the importance of their role.
- The cost of operating the Boys and Girls Club is greater than expected. Popular beyond expectations, over one hundred children attend the club

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[5] *The Outlook* 2000 Edition, The Story of Progress, A Positive Place. Supplement to *The Outlook,* Othello.

daily. Additional utilities and supplies, such as heat, toilet paper, and craft materials, are used, so operating costs go beyond the original budget amount. Funds for additional staff time are needed to provide good supervision.

- A couple of people stated that the area has good people, but that they don't see beyond the wall of the local plant. Career aspirations are low. Sometimes it is hard to motivate young people to success because they see their parents working in the plant. They think that is what they'll do when they grow up, so they don't see any reason to excel.

- As in most small towns, the same few people do everything. Many praise these civic leaders; others feel it is hard to break into this circle of influence if you want to try something new.

- Some interviewees feel that there is lots of denial of community problems, especially about youth problems. The relationship between gangs and violence and overall health of the community is not apparent to all. Many community members do not understand the consequences of youth involvement with alcohol and other drugs and tend not to get involved unless problems directly affect them.

- Communication has been a problem between the state and the local SIG site, and among agencies within Othello. The project computer that allows links to the state Everest system is located at the Boys and Girls Club's administrative office in Moses Lake. The city does not have e-mail. Communication between the state and the local site has been erratic due to e-mail transmission problems. People are difficult to reach by telephone and often it takes some time for information to filter down to the right people.

- The Washington State Adolescent Health Behavior Survey was conducted for the first time when the county received the SIG Grant. Staff indicated they needed more time to plan for the survey. Some people were on vacation because they did not know when the survey was coming. Because of the short notice, test information had to be sent home with kids rather than publicized in local media. This created additional administrative burden and costs.

- Several people stated that they need six-week notice for out-of-town meetings and for any special requests. This is to allow adequate planning time and arrange to cover their work regular workload.

Successes

The city of Othello project has been very successful. Opening the Boys and Girls Club in Othello was a major accomplishment. Hundreds of youth, with no place else to go, now have a club that they can call their own. Debbie Sanchez, the director, is totally dedicated to kids who attend the club. She goes beyond her duties to make sure they feel cared for and are provided with interesting and creative projects. The community has accepted this program and supports it.

The staff continues to use the SMART Moves curriculum and adapt it to work with their population. Debbie Sanchez summed up her experiences at the club by her comment: "The most rewarding things are kids smiling faces and the hugs you get everyday from these kids that really need you the most."[6]

The Future

In addition to carrying out substance abuse prevention services, there are other expectations associated with SIG. These involve changes in the system by which local prevention services are planned, delivered, and evaluated. The SIG community-level evaluation has four components:

- **Process evaluation**: examines organizational capacity and prevention planning processes.
- **Program implementation fidelity**: a record of what was actually done in presenting a prevention program and how it compares to what was planned.
- **Program effectiveness**: how effective the program was, measured by participant pre-tests and post-tests and examined in light of program implementation fidelity.
- **Long-term community-wide changes in substance abuse prevalence and risk and protective factors**: measured by the Washington State Survey of Adolescent Health Behavior (WSSAHB), prevalence and risk/protective factor changes are assumed to result from prevention system changes in community organization and planning and from the provision of prevention program services to targeted populations.

For Othello, seven items will be important during Year 2:

1. Continued implementation of prevention programs.
2. Continued participation in program effectiveness monitoring (Everest database and other agreed upon measurement methods when the Everest database is inappropriate for use with a particular program).
3. Participation in program implementation fidelity measures.
4. Continued development of a system for community-wide prevention planning, delivery, and evaluation.
5. Continued participation in process evaluation, consisting of interviews and document review.
6. Ensuring Othello School District's participation in the autumn of 2000 administration of the Washington State Adolescent Health Behavior Survey (WSSAHB).

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[6] *The Outlook* 2000 Edition, The Story of Progress, A Positive Place, Supplement to *The Outlook,* Othello.

7. Developing specific plans to track progress toward and achieve anticipated immediate changes from the Community-Based Prevention Action Plan Implementation Matrix (column 7) and the community-level goals from the Washington State Incentive Grant Substance Abuse Plan (see Appendix A).

Appendix A:
Community-Level Goals and Objectives[7]

Goal:

Communities selected to receive State Incentive Grant funds will work to prevent alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drug use, misuse, and abuse by the state's youth in these communities. They will develop and implement prevention plans, which will foster changes in the prevention system at the community level to make the system more effective.

Objectives:

1. To *establish partnerships* which include existing agencies and organizations, and families, youth, school, and workplaces to collaborate at the local level to prevent alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drug use, misuse, and abuse by youth.

2. To *use a risk and protective factor framework* to develop a community prevention action plan which reduces factors which put youth at risk for alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drug abuse and increase factors which protect or buffer youth from these risks.

3. To *participate in joint community risk and protective factor and resource assessment* by collecting, assessing, and prioritizing community-level information for: (a) youth alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drug use, misuse, and abuse; (b) risk and protective factor indicators; and (c) existing resources and service gaps.

4. To *select and implement effective prevention actions* that address priority risk and protective factors in the community by filling identified gaps in resources.

5. To *use common reporting tools* which provide information on what works and what does not work to reduce youth alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drug use, misuse, and abuse.

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[7] Governor's Substance Abuse Prevention Advisory Committee. 1999. *Washington State Incentive Grant Substance Abuse Prevention Plan*. Olympia, WA: Department of Social and Health Services, Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, State Incentive Grant Project.

Appendix B:
Methods

Information Sources

Interviews

Interviews were conducted with lead agency contacts, as well as prevention service providers and school district employees. If audiotaped interviews were conducted, interviewees were informed at the beginning of each interview that the audiotapes were confidential, were for the purpose of ensuring accuracy, and would be erased as soon as notes were taken from them. Questions were based on an interview guide, as well as related topics that arose during the interviews. Interview guides were modified after initial site visits, based on the interviewer's ability to obtain the desired information from the questions asked.

Document review

- Proposal: The Othello proposal in response to Solicitation No. 991346 was used as a primary source for contacts, needs, resources, prioritized risk and protective factors, target populations, geography and local plans to meet substance abuse prevention needs.
- Matrices: Prevention programs intended to address desired outcomes and associated risk and protective factors are described in detail in Community-Based Prevention Action Plan Implementation Matrix, created by local SIG staff and the SIG state project director. Matrices were used to guide inquiry into the process of achieving anticipated local outcomes.
- Linda Becker et al. 1999. *County Profile on Risk and Protection for Substance Abuse Prevention Planning, Adams County.* Olympia, WA: Department of Social and Health Services, Research and Data Analysis.
- Western Regional Center for Application of Prevention Technologies. 1999. *Best Practices and Promising Practices: Guide to Building a Successful Prevention Program, 2nd ed.* Reno, NV: Author.
- Data Book. [YEAR]. Olympia, WA: Office of Financial Management.
- Tourist brochures
- Local newspaper articles featuring the Boys and Girls Club

Observation

- Boys and Girls Club
- P.A.I.D. meeting
- City of Othello and surrounding areas

Surveys

Sub-recipient Survey: COSMOS Corporation, survey designer, is under contract with the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) to conduct a cross-site evaluation, and the Sub-recipient Survey is part of that evaluation. The survey is intended to document prevention activities semi-annually. Its focus is the sub-recipient's most important prevention program or action, although more than one form can be completed if the sub-recipient wants to describe other programs. The "most important" prevention program is defined as that which is most likely to produce measurable outcomes. Othello SIG staff completed the survey as requested.

Accessing Informants

- Key Informants: Initial informants were identified through the Othello SIG proposal.
- Snowball Sampling Strategy: Key informants were asked for names of community members who could provide insight into Othello's history of challenges, successes, and substance abuse prevention services.

Analysis

This report is the first step in a case study. Data analysis occurs throughout the research process in a case study, from the process of formulating the topic through the write-up. During and after interviews, information gathered is weighed in light of previous information. Questions and topics are modified as indicated by the new information. Data verification occurs through cross checking information from informants with that from other informants, documents, observation, and the researcher's journal entries.

Data analysis in a case study occurs by creating categories of information, broad at first, then becoming more specific. As familiarity with the study topic occurs, categories are related to one another and to theory. CSAP and COSMOS Corporation created broad data categories; around which interview questions and inquiry topics were framed. Data were gathered in the process of this evaluation with the intent of answering specific questions about system change in planning, providing, and evaluating prevention services for youth in local communities. Additional categories were added, as it became apparent that they were of importance to the SIG community grantees.

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Research and Data Analysis
Progress Report Number 4.43-2d pr