

# METHAMPHETAMINE PREVENTION NETWORK

## Newsletter

“FROM ME TO WE:” . . .

A collaborative effort of public and private organizations within Santa Barbara County

Message

### Message from Kathy Gallagher

Executive Sponsor, Director of Social Services



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The Leadership Council (LC) of the Methamphetamine Prevention Network is well on its way to building the foundation and making the difficult but essential infrastructure decisions that will guide the Council and Meth Prevention Network (MPN) on how business will be conducted.

As mentioned at the June 29th meeting, the Leadership Council is envisioned to entail a 9-12 month time

limited commitment from its members. The Council will utilize the strategies developed at the Meth Prevention Summit to prioritize short term action plans and develop strategic long range solutions to the meth epidemic.

The Council will also function as a decision making body for developing and supporting the infrastructure of the Meth Prevention Network.

The short term action plans will assist the LC in es-

tablising and defining the focus of the taskforces. The taskforces will further develop steps to carry out the actions plans, monitor progress and make recommendations to LC and MPN. Further details on taskforce opportunities is forthcoming.

“Taskforces will be developed at the September meeting based upon the strategies proposed at the Summit and the LC’s prioritization. Stay tuned for further details on opportunities to participate.”

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## What’s Next

### NEWS FLASH . . . .

❖ The Leadership Council of the Santa Barbara Countywide Methamphetamine Prevention Network (MPN) will be seeking committed representatives to serve on its taskforces. The Leadership Council seeks the focused participation of stakeholders in Santa Barbara County to combat the impact of methamphetamine in our communities. Taskforces will be developed at the September meeting based upon the strategies proposed at the Summit and the LC’s prioritization. Leadership Council members are encouraged to bring their recommendations for taskforce membership to the September meeting. Stay tuned for further details on opportunities to participate.

❖ All interested individuals are invited and encouraged to attend the LC meetings. However, voting will be reserved for the members of the Council. The next Leadership Council Meeting is on September 12, 2007 from 1-4 pm at the Royal Scandinavian Inn in Solvang. Coalitions and Organizations are in the process of identifying their representatives.

❖ COMING SOON—Meth Prevention Network Website! [www.StopMethInSBC.org](http://www.StopMethInSBC.org)

### Special points of interest:

- First District Board of Supervisor, Sa-lud Carbajal and Teresa Menchaca, Executive Director of Santa Maria Fighting Back are the Leadership Council Co-Chairs.
- Thom Allena has been appointed the Leadership Council Project Facilitator.
- Nancy Vazquez has accepted the Project Manager position.



## Introducing Thom Allena, Project Facilitator



Thom Allena has accepted the Project Facilitator role for the Methamphetamine Prevention Network (MPN) and Methamphetamine Leadership Council (LC).

Thom has extensive experience as a consultant in the areas of facilitation, strategic planning, community-building, and restorative justice. Thom has a B.A. in Political Science, M.S. in Public Administration/Criminal Justice Administration and is currently working on his Ph.D.

in Depth Psychology at Pacifica Graduate Institute. Thom recently co-authored and co-edited "Restorative Justice on the College Campus: Promoting Student Growth and Responsibility and Reawakening the Spirit of Campus Community."

Thom is enthusiastic and encouraged by the collaborative efforts that have already occurred and looks forward to working with the MPN and LC. Thom will be Facilitating the September 12th Leader-



**NEXT LC MEETING:**  
September 12, 2007  
1-4PM, Royal Scandinavian

"The expertise, knowledge, leadership and commitment expressed will be critical to combating the meth epidemic in Santa Barbara County. "

## MPN Planning Team Members

**Kathy Gallagher**, Executive Sponsor,  
Director of Social Services (DSS)



**Nancy Gottlieb**, Project Director, Division Chief, Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services (ADMHS)



**Nancy Vasquez**, Project Manager, Consultant, ADMHS



**Thom Allena**, Project Facilitator, Consultant, ADMHS



**Heather Gardner**, Task Force Coordinator, Department Analyst, DSS



**Rosie Rodriguez**, Project Support Administrative Asst., ADMHS

## Leadership Council Meeting Highlights

The first LC Meeting was held on June 29, 2007. The meeting was well attended with 35 participants representing the stakeholders which included a diverse group of community public and private agencies.

First District County Supervisor, Salud Carbajal and Teresa Menchaca, Executive Director of Fighting Back Santa Maria Valley have been appointed Co-Chairs of the Leadership Council. All participants

introduced themselves which included highlighting what resources, talents and skills each member brings to the Leadership Council. The expertise, knowledge, leadership and commitment expressed will be critical to combating the meth epidemic in Santa Barbara County.

The Leadership Council engaged in a detailed discussion about how many people should serve

and what organizations should be represented on the Leadership Council.

A membership and infrastructure proposal was presented that included a 21-member voting body. Since consensus was difficult to achieve, several suggestions were made to include a 29 and 36 member voting structure. A post meeting survey was sent to the attendees via e-mail with the three proposals. The

originally proposed, 21 member voting structure received 60% of the votes and will be implemented at the September 12, 2007 meeting.

