



Project Faith in Youth

Fiscal Year 11/12 Evaluation Report July 2012

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I. Introduction

Funded by the County of Orange Health Care Agency's Alcohol and Drug Education and Prevention Team (ADEPT) through Community Service Programs, Inc. (CSP), Project Faith in Youth (FIY) is a faith-based alcohol and drug prevention program working with diverse faith communities in Orange County to empower youth to become leaders who make positive lifestyle choices and to actively participate in their faith communities. The program's mission is to build the capacities of Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) to deliver alcohol and other drug (AOD) prevention services to their youth.

With the overarching goal of reducing underage drinking and other drug use, FIY conducts AOD prevention services with clergy, youth ministers, health ministers, lay volunteers, parents and families, and adult and youth members of FBOs within Orange County and other interested persons and groups associated with FBOs and the surrounding communities. The project incorporates principles of positive youth development in order to assist youth in making positive contributions to their communities, neighborhoods, and/or schools. Recognizing youth as an essential resource to the planning, implementation, and evaluation of prevention services, the project actively recruits and involves youth in all aspects of its services.

During FY 11-12, Project Faith in Youth renewed mini-grants to the following FBOs that were awarded grants in FY 10-11: St. Anthony Claret Church, St. Columban Church, and Congregation B'nai Israel. Project staff assisted each of the three mini-grantees in implementing youth-led community activities in order to increase youth protective factors, and provided training and technical assistance sessions to the mini-grantees on planning, implementing and sustaining their AOD prevention activities, and incorporating evidenced-based youth development practices within their organizations.

In addition, Project Faith in Youth provided educational workshops to members of the faith community on AOD evidence-based practices and/or youth development practices, trained workers in youth faith settings on implementing and sustaining AOD prevention strategies, and provided technical assistance to FBOs on implementing prevention services within their youth programs. The project also conducted Faith and Institutions Together for Health (FAITH) Coalition meetings and produced and distributed quarterly newsletters focused on best practices in AOD prevention to FBOs and other stakeholders.

II. Evaluation Methods

Project Faith in Youth contracted with an independent consulting firm, EVALCORP Research & Consulting, to create an evaluation framework for and conduct an overall evaluation of the three performance objectives and eight performance measures established by ADEPT for FIY to accomplish during the 11-12 fiscal year.

The project's three performance objectives included:

- By June 30, 2012, at least 70% of youth participants from each faith-based mini-grantee shall report an increase in one or more of the following protective factors:
 - Meaningful participation in the community
 - Connectedness to the faith community
 - Positive adult/peer relationships
- By June 30, 2012, at least two out of the three mini-grantees shall have incorporated evidence-based youth development practices within their organization.

- By June 30, 2012, at least 70% of the faith community members who attended educational workshops shall report increased knowledge of AOD evidence-based practices and/or youth development practices.

Additionally, the eight performance measures were as follows:

- A. By August 31, 2011, renew three mini-grants to the FBOs that were awarded in FY 10-11.
- B. By June 30, 2012, assist each mini-grantee with the implementation of six youth-led prevention activities.
- C. By June, 30, 2012, educate 30 people who work with youth in faith settings on implementing and sustaining AOD prevention strategies/practices.
- D. By June 30, 2012, provide 36 technical assistance sessions to the three mini-grantees on planning, implementing and sustaining their AOD prevention activities.
- E. By June 30, 2012, conduct educational workshops for 80 members of the faith community.
- F. By June 30, 2012, provide 10 technical assistance sessions to FBOs on implementing AOD prevention services within their youth programs.
- G. By June 30, 2012, conduct nine Faiths and Institutions Together for Health (FAITH) Coalition meetings during the fiscal year.
- H. By June 30, 2012, produce and distribute four newsletters to FBOs and other stakeholders focusing on best practices in AOD prevention.

As a means of determining whether Project Faith in Youth attained its goals, the following primary research questions guided the evaluation:

- To what extent did Project Faith in Youth achieve its proposed performance objectives and performance measures?
- What, if any, challenges or barriers were encountered during the project's implementation? If so, how were they overcome?
- What were the primary lessons learned and what are recommendations for similar initiatives in the future?

The evaluation framework was participatory and included input from project staff and other key stakeholders throughout the data collection and evaluation process. For instance, EVALCORP worked with FIY staff to develop the Youth Survey and Educational Workshop Surveys, and analyzed data and summarized findings for these data collection efforts. Project staff was primarily responsible for the data collection procedures, in charge of administering the educational workshop and youth surveys. In addition, the evaluation team provided ongoing evaluation-related technical assistance to project staff.

Collecting additional data to inform the year-end evaluation report, the evaluators conducted mini-grantee interviews and a staff assessment to gain a greater understanding of the many accomplishments, challenges, and lessons learned throughout the project's implementation. Furthermore, EVALCORP reviewed and analyzed all FIY materials, workshop materials, FAITH Coalition materials, newsletters, and tracking tools provided by FIY staff to determine the extent to which the performance objectives and performance measures were achieved.

III. Performance Objectives

As described above, Project Faith in Youth had three performance objectives and eight performance measures for the 11-12 fiscal year. This section evaluates the extent to which FIY achieved each of its performance objectives and measures.

Performance Objective 1: Youth Protective Factors

- By June 30, 2012, at least 70% of youth participants from each faith-based mini-grantee shall report an increase in one or more of the following protective factors:
 - Meaningful participation in the community environment
 - Connectedness to the faith community
 - Positive adult/peer relationships

Data Collection and Analysis

The Youth Survey was developed by Project PATH, in collaboration with the evaluation team, to determine whether youth participants from Congregation B'nai Israel, St. Anthony Claret Church, and St. Columban Church increased protective factors of meaningful participation within the community, connectedness to the faith community, and positive adult and peer relationships. This survey was administered to youth participants in April 2012 by each mini-grantee, with instructions and guidance from project staff. The survey contained a total of 28 items, including 22 items assessing protective factors, three demographic items, two items on the youth group, and one item on youth participation in the FBO's activities. Regarding protective factors, respondents were asked to indicate how true 22 statements related to the protective factors were for them using a 4-point Likert scale with the following definitions: 1 = not at all true; 2 = a little true; 3 = somewhat true; and, 4 = very true. In addition to items on participant gender, age, and ethnicity, the survey also asked participants what youth group activities they participated in, what was most valuable about the youth group, and what recommendations they had to improve the youth group.

A total of 62 youth completed the Youth Survey. Of these, 21 were from St. Anthony Claret, 21 from St. Columban, and 20 from Congregation B'nai Israel. Evaluators calculated response frequencies for each closed-ended survey item and aggregated findings for items pertaining to each of the three protective factors. In addition, evaluators analyzed, themed, and summarized the open-ended responses related to the participants' perceptions about the youth group. Key findings for each grantee are discussed below. Detailed tables indicating the frequency of survey responses for each item related to the protective factor are provided in **Appendix A** for each mini-grantee.

Youth Survey Findings

As shown in **Table 1**, 87% or more of the youth from Congregation B'nai Israel, St. Anthony Claret, and St. Columban increased on each protective factor, with the vast majority of respondents indicating that it was "somewhat true" or "very true" that they were more meaningfully involved in their community and faith community, and had more positive relationships as a result of their participation in the FBOs' youth group. At Congregation B'nai Israel, 93% of the respondents on average increased positive adult/peer relationships, 91% increased meaningful participation within the community, and 90% increased connectedness to the faith community. At St. Anthony Claret, 91% of the respondents on average increased meaningful participation within the community, 88% increased positive adult/peer relationships, and 87% increased connectedness to the faith community. Finally, at St. Columban, 93% of the respondents on average increased positive adult/peer

relationships, 91% increased connectedness to the faith community, and 89% increased meaningful participation within the community.

Table 1. Percent of Respondents Who Increased on Each Protective Factor by FBO			
Protective Factor	Congregation B'nai Israel	St. Anthony Claret Church	St. Columban Church
Meaningful Participation within the Community	91%	91%	89%
Connectedness to the Faith Community	90%	87%	91%
Positive Adult/Peer Relationships	93%	88%	93%

Youth Survey findings on respondents' demographic information, participation in activities, and perceptions of the youth groups are summarized below for each mini-grantee.

Congregation B'nai Israel

Of the 20 Youth Survey respondents at Congregation B'nai Israel, 80% were female and 20% were male. The average age of the respondents was 15, with ages ranging from 12-24. Almost all of the respondents (90%) were Caucasian, 5% were Hispanic, and 5% were both Native American and Caucasian. In the past two years, the vast majority of respondents participated in prevention-related activities at Congregation B'nai Israel such as community service projects/food drives (95%), holiday-related activities/events (95%), youth-led services (95%), family events/days (80%), and workshops/forums on alcohol or other drugs (65%). In addition, some respondents also participated in Sticker Shock/education activities (40%), sports-related activities/events (25%), and poster/photo/t-shirt projects (15%) at the temple.¹

When asked what they found most valuable or useful about the youth group in an open-ended item, 19 respondents provided comments. Almost all respondents valued the positive relationships, friendships, and support they gained from the youth group (n=18). Others commented that the youth group helped them understand their faith and/or connected them with the faith community (n=7), and/or provided meaningful participation in the community (n=6). Selected quotes that illustrate these themed responses are as follows:

- "It provided help and support to me when I needed it the most."
- "The most valuable aspect of my youth group is the fact that I have this accepting and loving support group - we get each other through hard times and create the best of times."
- "Having a group of friends to go to and enjoy and participate in making a difference with."
- "Becoming more connected to my Jewish faith."
- "Getting a better understanding of my faith."
- "I am able to have a leadership position in a community who cares about me."
- "I get to participate in community events that are fun and fulfilling."

Although all survey respondents commented when asked if they had recommendations to improve the youth group, almost half said that they had no recommendations (n=9), with many offering positive comments about the group such as "I have no recommendations to improve the USY youth group because everything is great and so much fun." Other respondents suggested having more events and opportunities to socialize (n=7), more adult support (n=4), and more youth involvement (n=2). Sample quotes that illustrate these themes included:

¹ The percent and total number of respondents exceeds 100% in this section as respondents were asked to mark all activities that applied and many open-ended responses were coded into multiple themes.

- “I wish we had more days where we just hang out together and had fun.”
- “The youth group could benefit from stronger adult support when it comes to helping make the visions of peers follow through (i.e., event ideas).”
- “We need a stronger youth participation and adult support.”
- “Try to get more Jewish youth to join. The youth group needs more people!”

St. Anthony Claret Church

At St. Anthony Claret Church, 63% of the 21 Youth Survey respondents were female and 37% were male. All of the respondents were Hispanic, with an average age of 16 and age-range of 14-18 years old. In the past two years, the majority of respondents participated in prevention-related activities at St. Anthony Claret such as community service projects/food drives (91%), holiday-related activities/events (86%), family events/days (67%), workshops/forums on alcohol or other drugs (67%), and youth-led services (57%). In addition, some respondents also participated in sports-related activities/events (43%), poster/photo/t-shirt projects (43%), Sticker Shock/education activities (33%), and “other” activities (14%) such as “Pennies from Heaven” and retreats.

Of the 16 respondents who provided comments when asked what they found most valuable or useful about the youth group in an open-ended item, over half said they valued the positive relationships, friendships, and support they gained from the youth group (n=9). Others valued the lessons and activities (n=5), a greater understanding of their faith and/or connection with the faith community (n=3), and meaningful participation in the community (n=2). Below are example quotes illustrating these themed responses.

- “Meeting new people and just knowing there is someone who actually cares.”
- “When I feel down or heavy, I come and feel relieved.”
- “We learn new things that will help us in the future.”
- “We do a lot of activities that make me realize a lot.”
- “I have become more involved in youth ministry, closer to my faith.”
- “Helps me get more involved at church. Makes me feel good to be at church.”
- “Helping the community.”

When asked for recommendations to improve the youth group, 16 respondents provided comments. Although some had no recommendations (n=5) and said “Nothing, all is perfect,” others suggested the youth group have more events and activities (n=5). Other comments were related to the youth group’s organization or logistics (n=4) and communications (n=3). Selected quotes of these recommendations include the following:

- “More outdoor activities.”
- “More activities and retreats.”
- “Field trips if possible.”
- “Start on time and have snacks.”
- “To stay the same and to be longer in time.”
- “Become more organized.”
- “Being more open to newbies.”
- “To communicate to other people.”

St. Columban Church

Of the 21 Youth Survey respondents at St. Columban, 62% were male and 38% were female. The average age of the respondents was 17, with ages ranging from 16-18. Almost all of the respondents (90%) were Asian, 5% were Caucasian, and 5% were Hispanic. In the past two years, the majority of respondents participated in

prevention-related activities at St. Columban such as community service projects/food drives (88%), youth-led services (86%), holiday-related activities/events (67%), family events/days (62%), and sports-related activities/events (52%). In addition, some respondents also participated in poster/photo/t-shirt projects (33%), workshops/forums on alcohol or other drugs (29%), and Sticker Shock/education activities (24%) at the church.

All respondents provided comments when asked what they found most valuable or useful about the youth group in an open-ended item. Almost half valued the positive relationships, friendships and support they gained from the youth group (n=10) and others said the youth group helped them understand their faith and/or connected them with the faith community (n=6). Some respondents commented on the positive environment (n=5), meaningful participation in the community (n=2), and the retreat (n=2). Selected quotes that illustrate these themed responses are as follows:

- “Being able to talk to other teens.”
- “My peers and my teachers were most valuable to me.”
- “People who understand me and I understand them.”
- “Helping others with their relationship w/God.”
- “They teach us more about our faith.”
- “Helping me feel God.”
- “This was always the place I could go to in order to be happy if I wasn't that day.”
- “Everything about this youth group is valuable and useful. The experiences have made me who I am, a stronger and more faithful person.”

Nineteen respondents commented when asked for recommendations to improve the youth group. Most respondents wanted more activities or events (n=14), others offered communication-related suggestions (n=4), and some had no recommendations (n=2). Below are selected recommendations given by the respondents.

- “I think having more classes will give the students an opportunity to learn more.”
- “To have more activities involving everyone.”
- “I would like to have more spiritual and worship days/events.”
- “More meetings with teens after confirmation.”
- “Meet more often.”
- “Get closer to the kids. Try talking to them and be a friend they can rely on.”
- “More interaction.”

Summary of Key Survey Findings

As a result of their youth group participation, at least 87% of youth respondents from Congregation B’nai Israel, St. Anthony Claret, and St. Columban increased on each of the protective factors of meaningful participation within the community, connectedness to the faith community, and positive adult/peer relationships. Thus, the performance objective was exceeded as 87% or more of the youth participants from each faith-based mini-grantee increased in all three of the protective factors.

Performance Objective 2: Grantee Youth Development Practices

- By June 30, 2012, at least two out of the three mini-grantees shall have incorporated evidence-based youth development practices within their organization.

As evidenced by Project Faith in Youth tracking tools and reported by mini-grantees in interviews conducted by the evaluators in May 2012, all three mini-grantees incorporated evidence-based youth development practices

within their respective congregation such as training congregation members on youth development practices, offering congregation-wide programs designed to include youth, and supporting youth-led activities that increase protective factors. Thus, this performance objective has been exceeded as all three mini-grantees incorporated evidence-based youth development practices within their organization. No challenges were encountered in the achievement of this performance objective.

Examples of evidence-based youth development practices incorporated into each mini-grantee's organization are described below.

- Congregation B'nai Israel incorporated principles of positive youth development practices in its youth programming by supporting youth led-activities that promoted protective factors such as the Yom Kippur Food drive; provided congregation-wide programs and activities designed to include young people such as the Purim Carnival, and supported members of the congregation in practicing youth development strategies by training youth leaders on Media Literacy and enabling them to facilitate an interactive Media Literacy educational workshop for Hebrew school students.
- St. Anthony Claret Church's programming incorporated positive youth development practices with youth-led activities such as the "10,000 Hours" community service project, provided congregation-wide programs such as a family outdoor movie, and guided congregation members in practicing youth development strategies with educational opportunities such as the event planning training.
- St. Columban Church also incorporated principles of positive youth development practices in its youth programming by supporting youth led-activities that promoted protective factors such as the "Oh, Baby!" baby item drive to benefit a shelter for homeless pregnant women, provided congregation-wide programs and activities designed to include young people such as the Thanksgiving Dinner, and supported congregation members in practicing youth development strategies with educational opportunities such as the asset building training conducted by the Diocese of Orange Youth and Young Adults Ministry Consultant who had previously received asset building training from project staff.

Performance Objective 3: Educational Workshops

- By June 30, 2012, at least 70% of the faith community members who attended educational workshops shall report increased knowledge of AOD evidence-based practices and/or youth development practices.

Data Collection and Analysis

Project PATH staff collaborated with the evaluation team to design Educational Workshop Surveys to assess whether or not participants increased their knowledge of AOD prevention best practices and/or youth development practices as a result of the workshops. Because it was challenging to develop a tool that would apply to the different workshop topics and work for both youth and adult audiences, two versions of the survey, the Youth Educational Workshop Survey and Adult Educational Workshop Survey, were created that had items in common and were customized to the workshop topics. Another challenge project staff experienced was uncertainty when defining "AOD evidence-based practices and/or youth development practices." After conducting research and collaborating with ADEPT, project staff formalized a list of practices to meet this criteria. Due to the time involved in defining appropriate practices and developing evaluation instruments, project staff did not begin conducting the workshops until later in the year. They overcame this challenge by reaching out to numerous FBOs in their network in order to provide a sufficient number of workshops.

The Youth Educational Workshop Survey consisted of five closed-ended items and the Adult Educational Workshop Survey consisted of four closed-ended items, all of which asked respondents the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with statements about the workshop and its impact using a 4-point Likert scale with the

following definitions: 1 = strongly agree; 2 = agree; 3 = disagree; and, 4 = strongly disagree. In addition, both versions of the survey included two open-ended items asking participants what was most valuable or useful about the workshop and for any additional comments.

Educational Workshop Survey Findings

In total, there were a total of 84 workshop participants who responded to an Educational Workshop Survey. Of these respondents, 82% were youth and 18% were adults. As **Table 2** demonstrates, 62% of the workshop participants attended a Media Literacy workshop for youth, 20% attended a Marijuana Prevention workshop for youth, and 18% attended an Alcohol and Drug Prevention workshop for adults.

Table 2. Breakdown of Workshop Survey Respondents by Survey Type and Workshop Topic			
Survey Type	Workshop Topic	# Who Participated	% Who Participated
Youth	Media Literacy	52	62%
Youth	Marijuana Prevention	17	20%
Adult	Alcohol & Drug Prevention	15	18%
Total		84	100%

Youth Educational Workshop Survey Findings

As **Table 3** shows, almost all of the respondents on the Youth Educational Workshop Survey agreed (indicating either “strongly agreed” or “agreed”) that the workshop gave them a better understanding of the specific workshop topic (99%), they learned information and skills that will help them reject alcohol and other drugs (95%), and they learned effective ways to help prevent friends or members of their youth group from using alcohol and other drugs (94%). Furthermore, all respondents agreed that the presenter communicated in a way that was easy to understand (100%) and almost all thought the training was a valuable experience overall (99%).

Table 3. Frequency of Responses on the Youth Educational Workshop Survey by Survey Item				
Survey Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a. This workshop gave me a better understanding of <i>the workshop topic</i> .* (n=69)	45%	54%	1%	0%
b. The presenters were easy to understand. (n=69)	75%	25%	0%	0%
c. I learned effective ways to help prevent my friends or members of my youth group from using alcohol and other drugs. (n=69)	33%	61%	6%	0%
d. I learned information and skills that will help me to reject alcohol and other drugs. (n=69)	38%	57%	4%	1%
e. Overall, the training was a valuable experience. (n=69)	55%	44%	1%	0%

* Topics specific to each workshop (i.e., “media literacy” or “harm of marijuana”) were inserted into this item.
Note: “n” refers to the number of participants who responded to each survey item.

When asked in an open-ended question what was most valuable or useful about the workshop, 63 respondents provided a variety of comments. Three quarters of the respondents said that learning about the workshop topic was most useful to them (n=47), offering comments such as “How the media affects how you think about smoking and drinking,” “Learning how different companies target different people,” and “Learning about the dangers of marijuana.” Other respondents valued strategies for teens to use to prevent AOD use (n=13), the presentation and presenter (n=5), the activities and group interaction (n=4), and provided positive comments about the presentation (n=4).

When asked for additional comments or input, most of the 40 responses to this item included positive feedback on the presentation, activities and/or presenter (n=34), with respondents saying “I really enjoyed the poster activity,” “It helped me realize a lot,” “Stephan was a good educator about marijuana,” and “Well done! Funny and enjoyable!” In addition, seven respondents provided miscellaneous comments such as “Drugs are bad,” “I like candy” and “The seminar didn’t really help me to change things because I am already very aware, but reinforcement is always good.” Five respondents offered suggestions on the presentation such as using “more films” and “pictures on the power point.”

Adult Educational Workshop Survey Findings

A total of 15 adults attended completed the Educational Workshop Survey at the end of the Alcohol and Drug Prevention workshops. All respondents agreed (indicating “strongly agree” or “agree”) that the workshop gave them a better understanding of alcohol and drug abuse prevention, they learned effective ways to help prevent youth from using alcohol and other drugs, the presenters were easy to understand, and the training was a valuable experience (see **Table 4**).

Table 4. Frequency of Responses on the Adult Educational Workshop Survey by Survey Item				
Survey Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a. This workshop gave me a better understanding of alcohol and drug abuse prevention. (n=15)	87%	13%	0%	0%
b. The presenters were easy to understand. (n=15)	87%	13%	0%	0%
c. I learned effective ways to help prevent youth from using alcohol and other drugs. (n=15)	87%	13%	0%	0%
d. Overall, the training was a valuable experience. (n=15)	80%	20%	0%	0%

Note: “n” refers to the number of participants who responded to each survey item.

All respondents provided comments when asked what was most valuable or useful to them about the workshop. Two-thirds of the respondents said it was most useful to learn about AOD abuse and its prevalence (n=10), such as “Statistics of teens abusing drugs,” “Explaining household items that can be abused by our teens,” “Seeing all the types of drugs and medications and learning what they look like,” and “Warning signs of various drugs.” About half of the respondents indicated that it was valuable to learn strategies to use with teens to prevent AOD use (n=7), such as “What to look for in rooms and backpacks,” “How to monitor behavior of teens,” and “Even though my child is growing up in a recovering alcoholic home, don’t assume she won’t drink in the future.” In addition, four respondents provided positive comments about the workshop in general, including “Very helpful,” “All information was great,” and “Excellent presentation! Thank you! I only wish more parents had come!”

When asked if they had any additional comments about the workshop, all five participants responding to this question provided positive feedback about the workshop, saying “Thank you for your time and knowledge,” “Keep up the good work,” and “Was very educational and well presented!”

Summary of Key Survey Findings

Based on Educational Workshop Survey findings from adult and youth workshop participants combined, 99% of all respondents agreed that the workshop gave them a better understanding of the workshop topic (i.e., alcohol and drug prevention, media literacy, or marijuana prevention) and 95% agreed that they learned effective ways to help prevent youth from using alcohol and other drugs (see **Table 5**). Aggregating findings across these two items assessing the construct of increased knowledge, this performance objective was exceeded as an average of 97% of the faith community members who attended educational workshops reported increased knowledge of AOD evidence-based practices and/or youth development practices that were presented in the educational workshops.

Table 5. Frequency of Responses on the Youth and Adult Educational Workshop Surveys by Survey Item				
Survey Question	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a. This workshop gave me a better understanding of <i>the workshop topic</i> .* (n=84)	52%	47%	1%	0%
b. The presenters were easy to understand. (n=84)	77%	23%	0%	0%
c. I learned effective ways to help prevent youth (<i>or my friends or members of my youth group</i>) from using alcohol and other drugs. (n=84)	43%	52%	5%	0%
d. I learned information and skills that will help me to reject alcohol and other drugs.** (n=69)	38%	57%	4%	1%
e. Overall, the training was a valuable experience. (n=84)	60%	39%	1%	0%

*Topics provided in this item included “media literacy” and “harm of marijuana” on Youth Educational Workshop Survey and “alcohol and drug abuse prevention” on Adult Educational Workshop Survey.

** This item was only on the Youth Educational Workshop Survey.

Note: “n” refers to the number of participants who responded to each survey item.

IV. Performance Measures

Performance Measure A: Mini-Grant Renewals

- By August 31, 2011, renew three mini-grants to the FBOs that were awarded in FY 10-11.

To meet this goal, Project Faith in Youth renewed mini-grants with the following three FY 10-11 mini-grant recipients: St. Anthony Claret Church, St. Columban Church, and Congregation B’nai Israel. Therefore, this performance measure has been met as mini-grants with the three FBOs were renewed by August 31, 2011. No challenges were experienced in renewing the mini-grants.

Performance Measure B: Mini-Grantee Activities

- By June 30, 2012, assist each mini-grantee with the implementation of six youth-led prevention activities.

As indicated in project tracking tools, progress reports, mini-grantee interviews, and the staff assessment, this performance measure was met with each mini-grantee implementing six youth-led prevention activities. Project PATH staff encountered some challenges getting two distinct youth groups at Congregation B'nai Israel (i.e., the United Synagogue Youth under Youth Director Barbara Sherman and the Hebrew School students under Director of Religious Education Robin Hoffman) to work collaboratively on prevention activities. With the guidance of project staff and the leadership and intervention of Cantor Marcia Tilchin, the youth groups were able to unite. The six youth-led prevention activities implemented by each mini-grantee are described below.

At Congregation B'nai Israel, youth planned, led, and participated in the following activities:

1. Yom Kippur Food Drive for Families Forward benefitting homeless and needy families in Orange County;
2. Media Literacy Educational Workshop for Hebrew school students which was facilitated by youth after participating in a Training of Trainers on Media Literacy conducted by project staff;
3. "Top That!" variety show featuring youth singing, dancing, and music for a multi-generational audience;
4. Hebrew High teens collaborated with youth from Tustin Presbyterian Church to prepare and serve dinner to homeless at the church;
5. Youth participating in the United Synagogue Youth organized a family-oriented Purim Carnival featuring food booths, games, resource tables, and judging of the Family Photo Contest entries; and,
6. Hebrew School Graduation featuring results of research project to link prevention with sacred text focusing on resiliency in the face of AOD-related temptations.

At St. Anthony Claret Church, the following youth-led projects and activities were designed and implemented:

1. Armed Forces Goods drive to collect items for US Marines currently deployed overseas;
2. Outdoor movie and barbecue in which teens served food to their families;
3. "10,000 Hours" community service project in collaboration with youth from other local Catholic churches to benefit non-profit organizations serving imprisoned, homeless, and disenfranchised youth;
4. All-day retreat for middle-school youth at Mission Basilica in San Juan Capistrano facilitated by youth leaders of GRACE youth ministry;
5. Sticker-Shock activity in which youth visited establishments that sell alcohol such as gas stations and liquor stores to place warning labels about providing alcohol to minors on alcoholic beverages; and,
6. "Family Dinner Under the Stars" event that included resource tables and representatives from CAN and Anaheim Police Department.

In addition, St. Columban Church planned and implemented the following prevention activities:

1. "Oh Baby!" baby item drive to benefit Casa Teresa, a shelter for homeless pregnant women;
2. "Trick of Treating for Canned Goods" drive collecting enough food to feed all the families at St. Vincent De Paul for a week;
3. "Thanksgiving Dinner" and collection of over 400 canned goods for families in need;
4. Leadership team building event;
5. Senior Night in which young adults spoke about AOD use, making good choices and balancing academic and social activities; and,
6. St. Columban Variety Show that highlighted talents of youth and included a bake sale and family dinner.

Performance Measure C: Education to Faith Youth Workers

- By June, 30, 2012, educate 30 people who work with youth in faith settings on implementing and sustaining AOD prevention strategies/practices.

Project Faith in Youth staff collaborated with Orange County Friday Night Live Partnership, Santiago de Compostela Catholic Church, Congregation B’nai Israel, St. Columban Church, and St. Anthony Claret Church to co-facilitate and/or provide educational workshops on implementing and sustaining AOD prevention strategies/practices to people who work with youth in faith settings. As shown in **Table 6**, five educational workshops were conducted, educating a total of 86 people who work with youth in faith settings. Thus, this performance measure was exceeded as 86 individuals working with youth in faith settings were educated on implementing and sustaining AOD prevention strategies/practices. Project staff did not encounter any challenges in achieving this performance measure.

Table 6. Breakdown of Workshop Survey Respondents by Survey Type and Workshop Topic			
Date	Workshop Topic	Location	# Educated
7/11/11	Youth Development	Congregation B’nai Israel	16
8/28/11	Running an Effective Meeting/Event Planning	Congregation B’nai Israel	10
1/11/12	Training of Trainers on Media Literacy	Congregation B’nai Israel	5
4/25/12	Event Planning	St. Columban Church	15
5/3/12	Event Planning	St. Anthony Claret Church	40
Total			86

Performance Measure D: Mini-Grantee Technical Assistance

- By June 30, 2012, provide 36 technical assistance sessions to the three mini-grantees on planning, implementing and sustaining their AOD prevention activities.

Project staff members provided a total of 37 technical assistance sessions to the three mini-grantees throughout the fiscal year in the areas of planning, implementing, and sustaining AOD prevention activities, as documented by tracking materials and quarterly progress reports. Thus, exceeding the performance measure.

Project staff did not encounter any challenges or barriers in providing technical assistance to the mini-grantees. The first technical assistance sessions provided the grantees with information on mini-grant requirements for the new fiscal year and assistance with action plans. Subsequent sessions focused on revisions to/finalization of the action plans, youth-led activities, trainings of the trainers, and educational workshops. Additional technical assistance sessions focused on reviewing grantees’ past and upcoming prevention activities and on developing and/or providing resources and workshops to assist grantees in their activities.

Performance Measure E: Educational Workshops

- By June 30, 2012, conduct educational workshops for 80 members of the faith community.

Project Faith in Youth staff conducted six educational workshops to 84 faith community members, including three Media Literacy workshops to a total of 52 youth at St. Columban Church in December 2011, St. Nicholas

Church in December 2011, and Congregation B'nai Israel in January 2011; two AOD Prevention Workshops for a total of 15 adults/parents at St. Angela Merici Church in March 2012 and St. Norbert Church in April 2012; and one Marijuana Prevention workshop to 17 youth at St. Wilfrid of York Church in December 2011. Therefore, this performance objective has been exceeded as 84 members of the faith community participated in the project's educational workshops.

As discussed above in the Performance Objective 3 section, project staff initially found it challenging to define "AOD evidence-based practices and/or youth development practices" in order to ensure that these practices were incorporated into their educational workshop presentations. After conducting research and collaborating with ADEPT, project staff formalized a list of practices to meet this criteria. Due to the time involved in defining appropriate practices to include in their educational workshops, project staff did not begin conducting the workshops until later in the year. They overcame this challenge by reaching out to numerous FBOs in their network in order to provide the required number of workshops.

Performance Measure F: Technical Assistance to FBOs

- By June 30, 2012, provide 10 technical assistance sessions to FBOs on implementing AOD prevention services within their youth programs.

As indicated by tracking materials and progress reports, Project Faith in Youth staff provided a total of 29 technical assistance sessions to FBOs throughout the year, exceeding the number of technical assistance sessions specified in the performance measure.

From July 2011 through May 2012, project staff provided technical assistance to various youth ministry workers at the following FBOs: St. Callistus Catholic Church, Santiago de Compostela Church, HOPE, St. Verena and the Three Holy Youth Coptic Orthodox Church, Islamic Institute of Orange County, St. Anne Catholic Church, Blessed Sacrament Church, St. Cecilia Catholic Church, St. Angela Merici Catholic Church, St. Wilfrid of York Episcopal Church, El Getsemani United Methodist Church, Holy Family Cathedral, and Al Hedayah Mosque. Many of the technical assistance sessions focused on planning, developing and implementing educational workshops designed for their congregational needs. No challenges or barriers were experienced while trying to achieve this goal.

Performance Measure G: FAITH Coalition Meetings

- By June 30, 2012, conduct nine Faiths and Institutions Together for Health (FAITH) Coalition meetings during the fiscal year.

A total of 11 FAITH Coalition meetings were conducted during the 11-12 fiscal year as evidenced by meeting agendas, sign-in sheets, tracking tools, and progress reports. The coalition meetings were designed to foster ongoing collaboration and capacity-building among FBO representatives and AOD prevention service providers. Key agenda items discussed at each FAITH Coalition meeting is provided below in **Table 7**. Project staff did not encounter any major challenges or barriers to achieving this performance measure.

Table 7. Breakdown of FAITH Coalition Meetings by Date and Agenda Items	
Meeting Date	Key Agenda Items
7/15/11	Summer Potluck; Linda Kearns Recognition
8/25/11	Laughter Yoga; Interfaith Relations
9/29/11	Sacred Listening
10/27/11	Tom Thorkelson, Operation Rehab
11/17/11	Rev. Allison English, 11 th Anniversary
1/26/12	Marketing Public Health
2/23/12	Influence of Marketing on Food Choices
3/29/12	Teenage Depression
4/26/12	Suicide Prevention
5/24/12	Dangerous Dating Trends
6/28/12	Issues Surrounding Availability of Marijuana

Performance Measure H: Newsletters

- By June 30, 2012, produce and distribute four newsletters to FBOs and other stakeholders focusing on best practices in AOD prevention.

In order to maintain ongoing communication with FBOs and other collaborative partners, Project FIY developed and distributed four quarterly newsletters that highlighted best practices in AOD prevention, project accomplishments, educational workshops and trainings, mini-grantee youth-led activities, and volunteer/partner awards and recognition. The following four issues of the newsletters were developed during the 11-12 fiscal year: Fall 2011, Winter 2011, Spring 2012, and Summer 2012. Therefore, this performance measure has been met as project staff produced and distributed four newsletters focused on best practices in AOD prevention to FBOs and other stakeholders.

While producing the quarterly newsletters, project staff found it challenging to obtain photographs of their events and trainings for the newsletters as it was often difficult to have more than one staff member at an event due to conflicting scheduling of events. Subsequently, they had limited photos available for the newsletters.

V. Mini-Grantee Interviews

To obtain a more detailed understanding of the impact the mini-grants have had on its recipients, interviews were conducted with representatives from each of the three mini-grant recipients of the 10/11 – 11/12 fiscal years. A total of three representatives were interviewed, including one leader from each of the following congregations: (1) St. Columban Church, (2) St. Anthony Claret Church, and (3) Congregation B’nai Israel. Grantees were asked to describe why they had applied for the mini-grant, how they were able to incorporate evidence-based youth development practices, the types of youth-led prevention activities that were implemented in the congregation, the most significant changes or impacts on the organization as a result of the grant funding, challenges or barriers encountered and how they were overcome, their satisfaction with the

Project Faith in Youth (FIY) staff, their sustainability plans, and recommendations for improving future mini-grant programs.

Reasons for Applying for the Mini-Grant

Reasons for applying for the mini-grant varied for each grantee and ranged from seeking assistance to help establish a newly formed youth ministry program to enhancing existing youth programming. Reasons provided by each of the grantees are as follows:

- To be able to offer more opportunities for youth to become involved in leadership positions as well as to increase participation in activities organized by the church.
- To help support the newly formed youth ministry program. The grantee indicated that the faith coalition and the mini-grant provided a “really good foundation so that we had the tools needed to get the youth ministry off the ground.”
- In contrast, the third grantee sought the mini-grant as a means to elevate the existing youth programming and to engage in more focused work incorporating the goals of Faith in Youth with the overall purpose of enhancing youth programming.

Evidence-Based Youth Development Practices and Youth-Led Prevention Activities

All three grantees indicated incorporating evidence-based youth development practices within their respective congregation, such as training congregation members on youth development practices, offering congregation-wide programs designed to include youth, and supporting youth-led activities that increase protective factors. Some examples provided include a Thanksgiving dinner for the entire parish that incorporated a foot washing as a symbolic gesture signifying healing and a time of service for each other. Additionally, this parish’s youth group organized a Variety Show that showcased their skills and talents along with a dinner for their families. Another grantee indicated that they offered their youth a weekly Friday night prayer service followed by a Sabbath dinner where a speaker talked to the youth. The third grantee provided the example of Youth Nights in which youth have the opportunity to go out into the community and help others.

All grantees implemented youth-led alcohol and other drug prevention activities. For instance, one grantee hosted a parent information event conceptualized by the teens for the purpose of informing parents about tools for raising teenagers based around the 40 Developmental Assets for Teenagers by Clay Roberts. Another grantee held trainings designed to prepare their youth to lead a workshop on recognizing subliminal messages in the media that encourage even legal substance use like alcohol and tobacco. The youth leaders also conducted bible study sessions during which selected passages were discussed that reinforced the characteristics they hoped to develop in the youth such as self-esteem. This was done as a means to encourage drug prevention from the “inside out instead of the outside in (in lieu of simply telling them not to do something).” During the second year, this congregation approached alcohol and drug prevention by building their youth’s resistance skills and teaching them to use their best judgment in all situations.

Furthermore, another grantee collaborated with youth from other parishes throughout Orange County to participate the “10,000 Hours” community service program. During this event, youth from each parish supported each other’s service focus area (e.g., handicapped summer camp, feeding the homeless, Mary’s Shelter for Teenage Girls, etc.). This program allowed youth to learn about other “care groups” that needed assistance throughout the county that they may not have been aware of. This parish also held a “Dinner Under the Stars” event during which representatives from various agencies (e.g., National Guard, Anaheim Police Department, ADEPT, etc.) answered questions about being watchful and how parents could “keep an eye on their kids.” During this event youth developed and planned performances. Another activity organized by the

youth was Sticker Shock. This activity allowed youth to interact with various store owners/managers in order for youth to obtain permission to place labels on alcoholic beverages throughout the store reminding the consumer to not provide or purchase alcohol for minors. This youth group experienced extremely successful outcomes with the program, as the event was reported on in the newspaper twice and appeared on the front page.

Impact of Project Faith in Youth

Grantees described several ways in which Project Faith in Youth has impacted their organization. For example, one grantee stated that the youth are more involved and committed in activities. Additionally, youth in this parish have developed life skills and are better able to interact with each other, their parents, and other adults. Another grant recipient indicated that the mini-grant has allowed for greater collaboration between the two youth groups in the congregation that had previously not worked together. The mini-grant allowed for more cohesive programming than in the past, which enabled both youth groups to become involved in joint activities. Additionally, receiving the mini-grant made the grantee more aware of the activities that could be organized not only for the youth but for their families as well that allowed for “heightened sense of sensitivity, heightened awareness, and greater purpose among the families.” This type of family interaction is believed to ultimately create a positive developmental environment for teens that are in the process of establishing their identities. As such, social service projects were developed that engaged several families within the congregation.

The third grantee found that through the activities made possible by the mini-grant, youth were able to “get out of their comfort zone and open their eyes to what is happening in their world.” Through their participation in the various activities, youth have learned various professional skills such as setting up meeting rooms, how to facilitate meetings/conversations, and how to be hospitable to guests, among others. Additionally, youth have been able to see firsthand how their efforts make a difference and impact their community at a young age. According to the grantee, “they don’t have to wait until they’re 25 or 30 years to get involved or volunteer and I know this will make an impact in their life as they get older.”

Challenges

Each grantee experienced unique challenges or barriers. One grantee described a challenge in obtaining commitment from the youth due to the various other school- or work-related activities youth were involved in. This challenge was addressed by focusing on identifying each youth’s unique skills and aligning that with upcoming activities and events. Additionally, this challenge was addressed by working around the youth’s schedule to lessen the burden for the youth.

Another grantee did not encounter any challenges per-se but obtained some feedback from parents during the first year of the grant that made the grantee reframe the way prevention messaging was conveyed to the youth. For example, during the first year of the grant some parents indicated they were not pleased with the constant alcohol and drug prevention messaging directed at the youth. In order to address this concern, during the second year of the grant youth leaders reframed their approach to alcohol and other drug prevention by building communal programs to encourage good self-esteem and character development among youth and by promoting activities to support healthier behaviors and choices.

The third grantee experienced challenges related to establishing the youth program and had to overcome “growing pains” as the youth ministry was in its infancy. This grantee worked to obtain buy-in for the youth program from the parish Pastor and administration that were not always supportive or able to see the benefits of the new youth ministry. This challenge was overcome by staying focused on youth and upcoming activities while also informing the Pastor and administration of the positive effects seen within the youth. Additionally,

the grantee sought support from Faith In Youth staff who helped the grantee to be patient and provided guidance through the process.

Satisfaction and Recommendations

Each of the three grantees was highly satisfied with FIY staff. All grantees believed the project staff did an outstanding job providing trainings and technical assistance throughout the grant term. Grantees appreciated that staff let each grantee work on its own while checking in from time to time and offering support or resources when needed. Each grantee described FIY staff as being supportive, resourceful, and attentive to the various needs of the organization. Below are quotes illustrating each grantees' feedback about project staff.

- "I was very satisfied with the technical assistance. They had a lot of good information and resources for us and I always felt supported."
- "Lourdes is the most amazing person I have ever met. She's fantastic, pays attention to detail and is completely devoted to her message. If I could nominate Lourdes for some communal service award, I would because I have learned so much from her and appreciated her support. Lourdes really helped us get the most out of our experience. She was wonderful, and Stephan too. They are a great team and I hope that they can continue doing what they are doing."
- "The staff has been amazing and I would not have a youth ministry program if I didn't find them. They make sure that we have everything we ever needed. Stephan is wonderful, vibrant, and amazing. He meets with us first thing in the morning or in the evening and comes to the events, comes on the weekends. He's not a 9-5 kind of guy. Besides him being an administrator to us, he is a trainer and a great speaker to the teens; he keeps them motivated. He has been a real asset to us."

Each grantee indicated intentions to continue AOD prevention activities within their organization and their respective communities. All grantees mentioned a desire to continue youth-led activities (e.g., Variety Show, 10,000 Hours, and Sticker Shock) and activities incorporating the family. More specifically, one grantee is planning to continue to work with Lourdes, the Congregation Education Director, and Youth Director because "money or no money we could really use the mission and vision of the FIY organization on an ongoing basis." Another grantee plans to continue to develop relationships with community partners such as the Anaheim Police Department and plans to obtain speakers to discuss alcohol and drug-related harms and effects.

Along with being very satisfied with the mini-grant program, the grantees identified practices they found particularly useful. For instance, one grantee believed that grant application process was made as easy as possible, while another grantee found the payment dispersal timeframe helpful (i.e., half of the funding was provided in the beginning of the grant period while the remainder was provided at the end). However, suggestions for improvement were provided and fell into the two categories discussed below.

Increase Exposure in the Community

All grantees were in agreement that FIY is a useful resource and should be more visible among faith community members and faith-based organizations. One grantee stated that creating more exposure in the community would help other youth ministries that are just being established. This grantee suggested it would be most beneficial if the FAITH Coalition could be made aware of any new youth ministry leaders/ministries so that they could immediately reach out to them to inform them of the coalition and the various resources available to them. Perhaps they could work in collaboration with Youth Directors so they can be informed of who is new. Another grantee suggested that the newsletters and emails be sent to more people within the community. The third grantee plans to help promote the organization within her faith community so that other faith-based organizations become familiar with the coalition.

Suggestions to Improve FAITH Coalition Meetings

Two of the grantees made recommendations related to the monthly FAITH Coalition meetings. Both grantees believed that the meetings could be restructured to provide more useful information and to be a more efficient/practical use of their time. Both grantees suggested the meetings could be more customized to the grantees' needs and recommended approaching the grantees and inquiring what topics would be most useful to be addressed during the meetings.

VI. Staff Assessment

EVALCORP conducted a year-end staff assessment with FIY staff in order to further inform the evaluation. Staff members were asked to describe the most significant accomplishments achieved by the project during the 11-12 fiscal year, surprising or unexpected outcomes, challenges/barriers encountered and how they were overcome, lessons learned, and recommendations for improving the project in the future.

Major Accomplishments

Project staff described numerous accomplishments they achieved during the 11-12 FY that included: guiding and supporting the three mini-grantees to successfully achieve all of their planned activities; seeing tremendous growth in capabilities of youth to lead activities and facilitate educational workshops; reaching out to more FBOs and participating in a community health fair; presenting on a panel of speakers about grant writing for faith communities; and creating by-laws for the FAITH Coalition. Brief descriptions of these key accomplishments are provided below.

- The 2010-2012 mini-grantees, Congregation B'nai Israel, St. Anthony Claret Church, and St. Columban Church, accomplished all that they planned in their action plans and more. Each youth group implemented at least six prevention activities during the past fiscal year.
- The United Synagogue Youth at Congregation B'nai Israel continued its transition from adult leadership to adult-guided youth leadership. Their youth were trained in event planning and were given the freedom to plan, organize, and lead prevention activities. This resulted in great success, especially with the family-oriented Purim Carnival.
- Project staff reached out to more FBOs this year, including St. Angela Merici Catholic Church in Brea, St. Wilfrid Episcopal Church in Huntington Beach, New Hope Presbyterian Church in Orange, and St. Anne Catholic Church in Santa Ana, where they conducted presentations and participated in a community health fair.
- Project Faith in Youth participated in a panel of speakers on "Grant Writing for Faith Communities" sponsored by the Newport-Mesa-Irvine Interfaith Council on April 18, 2012 and briefed members on their mini-grant program.
- The FAITH Coalition created and approved its By-Laws at its monthly meeting on May 24, 2012.

When asked about any surprising or unexpected outcomes resulting from the project this year, Project Faith in Youth staff commented on FBOs and youth groups that went beyond their expectations to facilitate educational workshops on their own after initially receiving training from project staff. For example, when project staff offered to conduct educational workshops on Asset Building for faith community members at St. Columban Catholic Church, the Youth and Young Adults Ministries Consultant at the Diocese of Orange and the Youth Director of St. Joachim Church were able to conduct these workshops since they had previously received Project FIY's training on Asset Building. They ended up conducting two separate Asset Building workshops in Spanish and English. Project staff stated, "After our many efforts to promote Asset Building, it is heartening to know that

the Diocese of Orange has embraced it as a youth development approach, and that its staff is now engaged in training parishioners.”

Similarly, after receiving a Training of Trainers on Media Literacy from Project FIY staff, Hebrew school youth leaders facilitated an interactive Media Literacy educational workshop for their peers and engaged their participants in deconstructing advertisements. According to project staff, “This was a proud moment for Project Faith in Youth, as we have always advocated the value of peer-to-peer education.”

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

This year, project staff learned that some of the activities on mini-grantees’ action plans had to be rescheduled or replaced, even though they seemed feasible at the start of the grant period. Therefore, project staff recommended that the action plan mini-grantees submit at the start of the grant period be seen as a dynamic document that can be revised to accommodate necessary changes. Project staff also recommends that the mini-grant application process begins earlier in the fiscal year than it has in the past in order to extend the entire timeline of the mini-grant program.

Project staff also learned that some of this past years’ activities, trainings and resources were particularly useful and should be continued in future years. For example, because the newly-developed Event Planning training was well-received by the mini-grantees, project staff recommends implementing it as a core training for new grantees. Similarly, the Youth Summit, which engaged the mini-grantees in displaying their impactful prevention projects, proved to be an excellent culminating activity. Therefore, project staff suggests officially incorporating the summit as a mini-grantee contractual requirement. Lastly, staff found that the Project Faith in Youth newsletter has become a great resource on Asset Building since they started including useful tips this fiscal year, such as spending “family time” together. Thus, it is recommended that future newsletters continue and expand upon tips that can help build capacity and assets in the faith community.

VII. Summary

During the 11-12 fiscal year, Project Faith in Youth PATH conducted a variety of activities to reduce underage drinking and other drug increase by working with FBOs to deliver AOD prevention activities to empower their youth to make positive lifestyle choices and actively participate in their faith communities. For example, FIY renewed mini-grants to the three FY 10-11 mini-grant recipients and assisted each one in implementing youth-led community activities in order to increase youth protective factors. Project staff provided training and technical assistance sessions to the mini-grantees on planning, implementing and sustaining their AOD prevention activities and incorporating evidenced-based youth development practices within their organizations.

In addition, Project Faith in Youth provided educational workshops to members of the faith community on AOD evidence-based practices and/or youth development practices, trained workers in youth faith settings on implementing and sustaining AOD prevention strategies, and provided technical assistance to FBOs on implementing prevention services within their youth programs. The project also conducted Faith and Institutions Together for Health (FAITH) Coalition meetings and produced and distributed quarterly newsletters focused on best practices in AOD prevention to FBOs and other stakeholders.

A thorough evaluation of all FIY progress reports, tracking documents, presentations, sign-in sheets, meeting materials, and newsletters indicated that all performance objectives and performance measures were met and/or exceeded.

Achievement of Performance Objectives and Measures

Project Faith in Youth met or exceeded the FY 11-12 performance objectives. An outcome indicator for each performance objective is provided below.

- **Performance Objective 1:** At least 87% of youth participants from Congregation B'nai Israel, St. Anthony Claret, and St. Columban increased on each of the protective factors of meaningful participation within the community, connectedness to the faith community and positive adult/peer relationships. Thus, the performance objective was exceeded as more than 70% of youth participants from each faith-based mini-grantee increased in one or more of the protective factors.
- **Performance Objective 2:** All three mini-grantees incorporated evidence-based youth development practices within their respective congregations. Thus, this performance objective has been exceeded as more than two of the three mini-grantees incorporated evidence-based youth development practices within their organization.
- **Performance Objective 3:** On average, 97% of the faith community members who attended educational workshops reported increased knowledge of AOD evidence-based practices and/or youth development practices. This exceeds the 70% of the faith community members attending educational workshops who were to report increased knowledge of these practices as specified in the performance objective.

Additionally, Project FIY met or exceeded each of the eight performance measures for FY 11-12. An outcome indicator or statement is provided below for each performance measure.

- **Performance Measure A:** Project Faith in Youth renewed three mini-grants to the FBOs that were awarded in FY 10-11 by August 31, 2011; thus this performance measure was met.
- **Performance Measure B:** Project staff assisted each mini-grantee with the implementation of six youth-led prevention activities. This meets the six youth-led prevention activities to be implemented by each mini-grantee as required by the performance measure.
- **Performance Measure C:** A total of 86 people who work with youth in faith settings were educated on implementing and sustaining AOD prevention strategies/practices. This exceeds the 30 people working with youth in faith settings that were to be educated as specified in the performance measure.
- **Performance Measure D:** Project staff provided a total of 37 technical assistance sessions to the three mini-grantees in the areas of planning, implementing and sustaining AOD prevention activities. This exceeds the 36 technical assistance session required by the performance measure.
- **Performance Measure E:** Project FIY conducted educational workshops for 84 members of the faith community. This exceeds the 80 faith community members that were to be educated as specified in the performance measure.
- **Performance Measure F:** Project staff provided a total of 29 technical assistance sessions to FBOs throughout the year. This exceeds the 10 technical assistance sessions required in the performance measure.

- **Performance Measure G:** Project FIY conducted 11 FAITH Coalition meetings during the 11-12 fiscal year. This exceeds the nine coalition meetings as specified in the performance measure.
- **Performance Measure H:** Project FIY produced and distributed four newsletters focused on best practices in AOD prevention to FBOs and other stakeholders. This meets the four newsletters that were to be developed and distributed as specified in the performance measure.

Conclusion

Along with meeting or exceeding all of its FY 11-12 performance objectives and measures, Project Faith in Youth reached out to more FBOs, presented on grant writing for faith communities, created by-laws for the FAITH Coalition, and saw tremendous growth in the capabilities of FBOs and their youth to lead activities and facilitate educational workshops. Mini-grantees reported that as a result of their involvement with FIY, youth were more involved and committed to their youth group activities, made a real difference in their communities, and developed better communication, professional, and life skills. Mini-grantees also described the positive impact of the program on families with a “heightened sense of sensitivity, heightened awareness, and greater purpose among the families.”

All mini-grantees were very satisfied with Project Faith in Youth and all of the support provided by project staff. The grantees thought that FIY was a useful resource and would like to see the project increase its visibility among other FBOs and faith community members so that more FBOs could learn about and engage in AOD prevention activities as they had. Two of the grantees also recommended restructuring and customizing FAITH Coalition meetings to address the informational needs of mini-grantees and other coalition members.

Reflecting on lessons learned in implementing the mini-grants this past year, project staff recommended that the action plan mini-grantees submit at the start of the grant period become a dynamic document that can be revised to accommodate necessary changes. They also suggested that the mini-grant application process begins earlier in the coming fiscal year than it has in the past to extend the entire timeline of the mini-grant program. Based upon the success of some of their efforts this past year, project staff would like to implement the Event Planning educational workshop as a core training for new grantees, incorporate the Youth Summit as a new mini-grantee contractual requirement, and continue providing useful tips in its newsletter as it has become a great resource on Asset Building for the faith community.

In sum, Project Faith in Youth went beyond accomplishing all of its performance objectives and measures in the 11-12 fiscal year to reach out to more FBOs and achieve tremendous growth in the capacity of FBOs and youth to lead prevention activities independently. Based on experiences this past year, project staff strives to build upon its mini-grant program and faith community outreach and education in the future in order strengthen Project Faith in Youth as a vital resource for AOD prevention in faith communities in Orange County.

Appendix A. Findings on Youth Survey Items by FBO and Protective Factor

Table A-1. Youth Survey Findings for Congregation B’nai Israel				
<i>As a result of your participation in this youth group ...</i>	Not at all true	A little true	Some-what true	Very true
Aggregate for Meaningful Participation within the Community (n=80)	0%	9%	31%	60%
I have more meaningful participation in my community. (n=20)	0%	10%	35%	55%
I have participated in community service projects. (n=20)	0%	15%	15%	70%
I place a higher value on helping other people. (n=20)	0%	5%	35%	60%
I have done things that make a difference. (n=20)	0%	5%	40%	55%
Aggregate for Connectedness to the Faith Community (n=98)	5%	5%	30%	60%
I feel more connected to my faith community. (n=20)	0%	15%	25%	60%
I have been given a useful role in my faith community. (n=20)	5%	0%	40%	55%
I am more involved in the youth ministry/youth group at my church/temple. (n=20)	0%	0%	25%	75%
I have helped decide/plan youth-oriented church/temple activities. (n=19)	16%	5%	37%	42%
I have participated in religious services. (n=19)	5%	5%	21%	69%
Aggregate for Positive Adult/Peer Relationships (n=258)	1%	6%	23%	70%
I have more positive relationships with adults. (n=19)	0%	6%	47%	47%
I have more positive relationships with peers. (n=19)	0%	0%	16%	84%
<i>I have more adults in my life ...</i>				
who really care about me. (n=20)	0%	10%	25%	65%
who tell me when I do a good job. (n=20)	5%	5%	25%	65%
who always want me to do my best. (n=20)	0%	0%	15%	85%
who listen to me when I have something to say. (n=20)	5%	0%	30%	65%
who I can go to for help with a problem. (n=20)	0%	10%	20%	70%
<i>I have more friends about my age ...</i>				
who really care about me. (n=20)	0%	5%	15%	80%
who I can talk to about my problems. (n=20)	0%	20%	5%	75%
who help me when I am having a hard time. (n=20)	0%	10%	15%	75%
who would disapprove of me using alcohol, tobacco or other drugs. (n=20)	5%	10%	10%	75%
who participate in community service projects. (n=20)	5%	5%	40%	50%
who are involved in the youth ministry/youth group at my church/temple. (n=20)	0%	5%	35%	60%

Note: “n” refers to the number of participants who responded to each survey item.

Table A-2. Youth Survey Findings for St. Anthony Claret Church

<i>As a result of your participation in this youth group ...</i>	Not at all true	A little true	Some-what true	Very true
Aggregate for Meaningful Participation within the Community (n=83)	1%	8%	31%	60%
I have more meaningful participation in my community. (n=21)	5%	19%	38%	38%
I have participated in community service projects. (n=21)	0%	0%	38%	62%
I place a higher value on helping other people. (n=21)	0%	5%	14%	81%
I have done things that make a difference. (n=20)	0%	10%	35%	55%
Aggregate for Connectedness to the Faith Community (n=105)	3%	10%	36%	51%
I feel more connected to my faith community. (n=21)	0%	5%	29%	67%
I have been given a useful role in my faith community. (n=21)	5%	5%	52%	38%
I am more involved in the youth ministry/youth group at my church/temple. (n=21)	0%	10%	33%	57%
I have helped decide/plan youth-oriented church/temple activities. (n=21)	9%	29%	33%	29%
I have participated in religious services. (n=21)	0%	0%	33%	67%
Aggregate for Positive Adult/Peer Relationships (n=272)	2%	10%	37%	51%
I have more positive relationships with adults. (n=21)	0%	10%	43%	47%
I have more positive relationships with peers. (n=21)	0%	0%	38%	62%
<i>I have more adults in my life ...</i>				
who really care about me. (n=21)	0%	4%	48%	48%
who tell me when I do a good job. (n=21)	0%	14%	33%	53%
who always want me to do my best. (n=21)	0%	0%	33%	67%
who listen to me when I have something to say. (n=20)	5%	15%	45%	35%
who I can go to for help with a problem. (n=21)	0%	14%	38%	48%
<i>I have more friends about my age ...</i>				
who really care about me. (n=21)	0%	10%	38%	52%
who I can talk to about my problems. (n=21)	5%	10%	23%	62%
who help me when I am having a hard time. (n=21)	0%	10%	38%	52%
who would disapprove of me using alcohol, tobacco or other drugs. (n=21)	5%	14%	33%	48%
who participate in community service projects. (n=21)	5%	19%	28%	48%
who are involved in the youth ministry/youth group at my church/temple. (n=21)	5%	9%	43%	43%

Note: "n" refers to the number of participants who responded to each survey item.

Table A-3. Youth Survey Findings for St. Columban Church

<i>As a result of your participation in this youth group ...</i>	Not at all true	A little true	Some-what true	Very true
Aggregate for Meaningful Participation within the Community (n=84)	0%	11%	38%	51%
I have more meaningful participation in my community. (n=21)	0%	14%	48%	38%
I have participated in community service projects. (n=21)	0%	19%	38%	43%
I place a higher value on helping other people. (n=21)	0%	5%	28%	67%
I have done things that make a difference. (n=21)	0%	5%	38%	57%
Aggregate for Connectedness to the Faith Community (n=104)	0%	9%	32%	59%
I feel more connected to my faith community. (n=21)	0%	0%	29%	71%
I have been given a useful role in my faith community. (n=20)	0%	0%	50%	50%
I am more involved in the youth ministry/youth group at my church/temple. (n=21)	0%	5%	14%	81%
I have helped decide/plan youth-oriented church/temple activities. (n=21)	0%	38%	38%	23%
I have participated in religious services. (n=21)	0%	0%	29%	71%
Aggregate for Positive Adult/Peer Relationships (n=265)	0%	7%	39%	54%
I have more positive relationships with adults. (n=20)	0%	0%	45%	55%
I have more positive relationships with peers. (n=21)	0%	0%	38%	62%
<i>I have more adults in my life ...</i>				
who really care about me. (n=21)	0%	0%	43%	57%
who tell me when I do a good job. (n=21)	0%	5%	33%	62%
who always want me to do my best. (n=21)	0%	0%	38%	62%
who listen to me when I have something to say. (n=21)	0%	10%	52%	38%
who I can go to for help with a problem. (n=20)	0%	25%	30%	45%
<i>I have more friends about my age ...</i>				
who really care about me. (n=20)	0%	5%	30%	65%
who I can talk to about my problems. (n=20)	0%	15%	40%	45%
who help me when I am having a hard time. (n=20)	0%	20%	35%	45%
who would disapprove of me using alcohol, tobacco or other drugs. (n=20)	0%	0%	30%	70%
who participate in community service projects. (n=20)	0%	5%	55%	40%
who are involved in the youth ministry/youth group at my church/temple. (n=20)	0%	5%	40%	55%

Note: "n" refers to the number of participants who responded to each survey item.