# Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) Program: Community Outcomes

# **Supporting Statement**

## Part B. Collections of Information Employing Statistical Methods

## **B1.** Respondent Universe and Sampling Methods

SAMHSA's CSAP funded 24 SPF SIG grantees in July 2009 (Cohort IV), which included 12 states, the District of Columbia, 6 tribal entities, and 5 jurisdictions, and 10 grantees in October 2010 (Cohort V), which included 3 states and 7 tribal entities. SPF SIG grantees select, assist, and support selected community subrecipients (i.e., communities that receive SPF SIG funds from the Cohort IV and V grantees) to implement effective programs, policies, and practices to reduce substance use and its related problems. Each grantee can pursue diverse strategies and methods for selecting the community subrecipients in their areas. An average of 10-15 community subrecipients are awarded by each grantee.

A census of all Cohort IV and V grantees is necessary because these data will be used by SAMHSA to assess program performance. SPF SIG grantees encompass a wide variety of organizational types and structures that are implementing a range of prevention interventions targeted to different populations and with various outcome goals. The variety between grantee initiatives makes it critical to the cross-site evaluation to assess which initiative characteristics and interventions (already captured through the current OMB-approved instruments) are associated with better outcomes for particular types of communities.

Submission of community outcomes data will be required of all active Cohort V SPF SIG grantees on behalf of their active community subrecipients. Cohort IV grantees will be asked to voluntarily provide the data. Most Cohort IV grantees have indicated willingness to provide the data to the cross-site evaluation, because the data are generally those they have gathered from existing administrative and survey datasets for the purposes of their own grantee-level evaluations. The estimated response rate for this activity across Cohort IV and V is 65 percent (22 of 34 grantees), because some grantees have indicated a lack of available data.

#### **B2.** Information Collection Procedures

To initiate collection of community outcomes data, the contractor will contact each Cohort IV and V SPF SIG Project Director and Evaluator by e-mail to request submission of the data via a spreadsheet template. The spreadsheet will be pre-populated with any community outcomes data that the contractor has in our cross-site database. The Excel format will allow grantees to copy and paste information across multiple subrecipients with common data elements (e.g., data source name, survey item wording). Closed-ended fields will contain drop-down menus that allow for the quick selection from among response options. Given the non-confidential nature of aggregate community outcomes data, grantees will be asked to return the data entry spreadsheet to the contractor via email.

Grantees will have access to technical assistance in completing the spreadsheets. The contractor's online data system that is used to collect the other cross-site evaluation instruments includes a "Help" or "Support" link, which will allow the respondent to access the following support resources:

- 1. *The Knowledge Base*. Community outcomes guidance materials will be available on the Knowledge Base to assist grantees in populating the spreadsheet.
- 2. Contact Us. Respondents may request assistance by calling a provided toll-free number, sending an email request, or submitting a technical assistance submission form as desired. The toll-free line will be routed to an email system that is checked daily by members of the training and technical assistance team. Staff responding to technical assistance requests will be trained in the instrument and have ready access to the community outcomes guidance materials on the Knowledge Base. Training and technical assistance team staff will monitor all submitted tickets to ensure timely response and resolution of technical assistance requests.

Over the two-month data collection period, grantees will receive follow-up contact by email from the technical assistance team to ensure that all questions are answered and that grantees are reminded of the submission deadline.

## **B3.** Methods to Maximize Response Rates

All Cohort V grantees will be required to provide community outcomes data. We anticipate that, the response rate will be less than 100 percent, however, as not all tribal grantees had available data sources or conducted primary data collection for their evaluations. For Cohort IV grantees, although submission of community outcomes data will be voluntary, most have indicated

willingness to provide data as well as availability of existing data. The estimated response rate for this activity across Cohort IV and V is 65 percent (22 of 34 grantees). The follow-up procedures, described in the preceding section, will increase the likelihood that a very high percentage of grantees will respond.

#### **B4.** Tests of Procedures

As part of the broader contract, three staff completed a test version of a community outcomes instrument that is very similar in content to the one proposed in this package. These staff members have experience with SPF initiatives, including serving as local evaluators for SPF SIG grantees.

The Community-Level Outcome Data for Subrecipients instrument is estimated to take 4 hours to complete; this includes 3 hours to look up and compile information and 1 hour to complete the web instrument.

#### **B5. Statistical Consultants**

The contractor team comprises several experts who will be directly involved in data collection and statistical analysis. Also, contractor in-house experts will be consulted throughout the program on various statistical aspects of the design, methodological issues, and data analysis, including leveraged funding analysis. Finally, the project has an External Steering Committee. Members of this External Steering Committee have already provided feedback on the instruments and the evaluation/analysis plan and will continue to provide advice and feedback through scheduled quarterly meetings and ad hoc e-mails as needed. **Table 3** provides details of these team members and advisors.

Table 3. Statistical Consultants for the Program Evaluation for Prevention Contract

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# **Attachments:**

A: SPF SIG National Outcome Measures

B: Community Outcomes Data Fields