Discussion Topic Options: Merced County ACA Readiness Project

"The Merced County's Health Care Consortium proposes to increase readiness and collaborative capacity to take advantage of opportunities available through the ACA implementation. To accomplish this, the Merced County ACA Readiness Project will plan for health care coverage expansion; identify opportunities for health care delivery improvements; increase local awareness and advocacy around ACA implementation; and develop an operational plan that identifies timelines and action items to guide local expansion and improvement efforts."

Medi-Cal Expansion

- How many currently uninsured residents will become eligible for Medi-Cal under expansion?
- Where do they currently go for care and how many rely on the safety-net for services?
- What in-reach and outreach efforts are public and private safety-net providers considering and what opportunities exist to collaborate or learn from each other?
- What funding exists to support our work?

Covered CA Outreach and Enrollment

- How many currently uninsured residents will become eligible for Covered CA subsidies?
- What are their demographic characteristics and where do they go for care?
- Which entities are expected to invest in outreach/education activities and is it sufficient?
- Who else needs to be involved and where are the opportunities for diverse agencies to collaborate?
- What funding exists to support our work?

Access, Capacity and the Delivery System

- Currently, what are the most significant access and capacity challenges in the community? How does it differ for safety-net and commercial populations?
- How is health reform expected to impact capacity and access? What are the biggest risks?
- What efforts are underway or planned by stakeholders to improve access, increase capacity, or ensure more effective service delivery?
- What opportunities exist for diverse stakeholders to collaborate or coordinate services?

The Residual Uninsured

- What are the characteristics of the existing uninsured in our community?
- How many of the existing uninsured will become eligible for Medi-Cal or subsidies through Covered California?
- How many residents will remain uninsured and who are they?
- After coverage expansion, who will the MAP serve and what, if any, changes is Merced considering for program eligibility?

Budget and Financing

- What do various stakeholders anticipate will be the broad impact of health reform on their organization and how are they preparing for these impacts?
- What are the major California budget components under consideration currently and how will they impact the stakeholders at the table?
- What local financing issues are under consideration?

Questions to ask before every discussion…

- What data/information do we need to have an informed discussion?
- Who needs to be at the table?
- What issues/perspectives need to be represented from my organization?
- What do we want to have happen as a result of our discussion?