

FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions)

Q: Is Lead & Seed a drug prevention program?

A: Lead & Seed is *half program* and *half process*. During the initial 2-day training, (*Lead*), it is an instructional program curriculum with pre and post knowledge assessments. After the training, a process takes place based on the logic models and action plans created by the participants in the training action to take place in their community, (*Seed*), to change policies, practices and procedures

Q: How are youth involved and what ages?

A: Adults trained in Lead & Seed can work with youth in their schools, youth-serving organizations or faith communities, or, the youth can be trained separately in the youth version of the Lead & Seed training. Lead and Seed is based on youth empowerment and youth civic engagement processes that create population level change.

Q: What successes has the program Lead & Seed had on the national arena?

A: See examples below

1. Lead & Seed was selected from many proposals and applicants, for a national presentation and workshop at the NPN, (National Prevention Network), Research Conference in Indianapolis, in August 2008 with presenters Dr. Pamela Imm, Nora Drexler, and the Pennsylvania Director of Drug Prevention, Garrison Gladfelder. At the National Prevention Network conference Lead and Seed session, sample evaluations from 3 sites were shared and documented: (1.) Columbia, SC (URBAN/SUBURBAN), (2) New Bedford, MA (URBAN) and (3) Erie County, PA (RURAL / SUBURBAN)

2. Environmental projects and activities from Lead and Seed were used and highlighted exclusively for "SAMHSA's Town Hall Meeting" national training, (both in 2006 and 2008) which was videotaped live in Miami, Florida with Nora Drexler, Dennis Romero, (Deputy Director of CSAP at the time), Steve Wing, and Lourdes Vasques who translated the Lead & Seed presentation into Spanish. The edited and videotaped version of the training was then placed on the SAMHSA website www.stopalcoholabuse.gov and included as kits with the training on a CD distributed across the country.

3. 2-Day trainings for Lead and Seed continue to be offered nationwide, free of charge, from the National Guard Counterdrug component at the NCTC (Northeast Counterdrug Training Center) at Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA. Food, lodging, training and training materials are offered at no cost, as mandated by Congress. (Register at: <http://www.counterdrug.org>) Participants at this training only receive the Phase I instruction that prepares them to return to their communities and train their staff or leaders.

4. Alutiiq LLC is an Alaskan Native Corporation that provides the materials and training for Lead & Seed. Funding can be used from the U.S. Dept. of Ed, Safe and Drug-free Schools and Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse to provide Lead & Seed trainings.

5. Lead & Seed information was available for downloading from CADCA on their web site in 2006 and also to the Office of Safe and Drug-free Community grantees for the "Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse" Technical Assistance Conference in Atlanta in 2007.

6. Lead & Seed is funded in the state of PA and PA has adapted their online data collection system to capture program and process outcomes from Lead & Seed on their web based online system for Pennsylvania's "Performance Based Prevention System".

7. Lead and Seed is presently being implemented in several states in the United States.

Q: How can I fund the training for Lead & Seed in my community?

A: Local sources such as Rotary, Parent Teacher Organizations, School Districts, Community Foundations, etc. can fund the training. Also, grant money from the Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools and Drug Free Communities can be used.

Q: What groups or organizations could be trained?

A: Middle or high school student leaders, any civic organizations, youth-serving organizations, faith community groups, coalitions... anyone who wants to bring about change in their community.

Q: How is Lead & Seed evaluated?

A: For Phase I, (Lead) which is the 2-day training, there are Pre and Post Knowledge Assessments and the NOMs (National Outcome Measures) used, as well as observation by the

instructor on successful problem solving activities and simulations. For Phase II, (Seed), whereby the group is following their own logic model and action plans, environmental strategies are evaluated according to the intervention selected, *(i.e. reduction in DUI arrests, deaths or injuries due to drug-related use, tobacco compliance checks, in or out of school suspensions that were drug-related, changes in policies, practices and procedures)*

Q: How does Lead & Seed fit with Federal guidelines and best practices?

A: Lead & Seed uses only the best practices as outlined by SAMHSA, (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration) and CSAP,(Center for the Application for Prevention Technologies) and the National CAPT, (Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies.) The program also uses the SAMHSA 5-Step Strategic Planning Framework.

Q: Will the training provide concrete examples of how to move forward in the community?

A: The training provides more than 100 youth-led activities that a community can implement for community motivation and mobilization. Each activity is in “lesson plan” format, with goals, objectives, materials, suggested business partnerships and funding, procedures and suggested ways to evaluate and measure the outcomes.