



Fact Sheet:
GOVERNOR'S PREVENTION
ADVISORY COUNCIL



**GOVERNOR'S INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR THE
 PREVENTION OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG PROBLEMS**

Overview

The Governor's Prevention Advisory Council (GPAC) coordinates the State's strategic efforts to reduce the incidence and prevalence of inappropriate alcohol, tobacco and other drug (ATOD) use. This high-level Council provides California with leadership and continuity to advance ATOD prevention. The Council's permanence and historical perspective are needed to attain deliberative, sustainable results, rather than react individually to short-term variations. Council members reinforce each other's efforts, reduce redundancies, and align their organizations' resources to achieve specific collective objectives.

Structure/Composition:

The organizations appointed to the GPAC have varied primary missions that all benefit from successfully reducing and preventing public health, safety and economic harm related to ATOD. The GPAC operates collectively toward a shared purpose, while members maintain autonomy carrying out Council prevention objectives through their respective organizations.

The Director of the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) chairs the GPAC and

ADP provides staff support for the GPAC. Membership of the GPAC includes key Agency and Departmental administrators from major state agencies involved with prevention issues, funding, and/or program-level support.

The GPAC members include:

- (1) Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs
- (2) Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
- (3) Attorney General's Office
- (4) California Community Colleges
- (5) California Department of Education
- (6) Department of Public Health
- (7) California Highway Patrol
- (8) Department of Social Services
- (9) California Emergency Management Agency
- (10) Office of Traffic Safety
- (11) Office of the Chancellor, California State University
- (12) Office of the President, University of California
- (13) Department of Rehabilitation
- (14) California National Guard
- (15) Department of Mental Health

Also, a representative from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research participates on the GPAC.

Guiding Principles:

The Council's focus is on ATOD prevention to reduce adverse personal, social, health, and economic consequences resulting from problematic ATOD availability, manufacture, distribution, promotion, and sales, as well as individual use. The desired result is collaborative action to promote safe and healthy environments for individuals, families, and communities using research-based planning, appropriate strategy selections, effective delivery, and evaluation.

Responsibilities:

In addition to collaborating on ATOD issues of common concern, the Council shall:

- Develop and implement unified and integrated statewide ATOD prevention coordination plans; and,
- Identify means of working more efficiently with ATOD prevention-related resources to reduce fragmentation and redundancy at all levels.

GPAC Operations:

GPAC members provide information from their affiliate organizations and advisory sources concerned with the impact of ATOD. Workgroups are formed to prepare recommendations for the GPAC on specific topics, such as underage drinking, evidence-based prevention, and high rate underage ATOD use. The GPAC also serves as the State Policy Steering Committee for the California Screening, Brief

Intervention, Referral and Treatment Grant Program.

Several products created by the GPAC include:

- A resource guide for California Communities on building and sustaining a methamphetamine community coalition;
- A publication to provide parents with information on underage drinking entitled, "Tips for Parents: Underage Drinking in California", and,
- A strategic plan to reduce adolescent and binge drinking among youth in California.

To obtain this information, please visit the GPAC webpage at:

<http://www.adp.ca.gov/Prevention/gpac.shtml>

For additional information, contact the Program Services Division, Prevention Services, at (916) 324-4398.