



## HEAL Youth Regional Convening

Wednesday, July 16, 2014 | Lemon Grove, CA | 9:00AM – 3:30PM

### VISION FOR MY COMMUNITY IN 2015

#### Brainstorming:

Share your common reality with your community group. Agree on one current reality and write it on some flip chart paper.

Finally, if you had a magic wand and unlimited support and resources, *what would you turn this reality into? What would your ideal healthy community look like? Talk together and create a vision and write it on flip chart paper.* It should be 2-4 sentences.

#### WHAT SHOULD YOUR VISION INCLUDE?

Here is a brief checklist of some of the things that you should keep in mind when developing your vision. Your vision should be able to accomplish the following things:

**Be Clear.** Your vision should be so sharp and so detailed that you can see, smell, and taste the smallest details.

**Be Big Enough.** Create a bigger picture of the effects of your work than just solving the problem at hand. THINK BIG. Given the potential for this exercise to snowball and become overwhelming, where and how do you draw the line? Well, that's up to your team. Remember, this is just the vision. This is not an outline of your goals. Hopefully, if your vision is effective, it will inspire other groups in your community to work alongside you in achieving this vision. On the flipside, if your vision is too small, it may not provide enough inspiration or generate enough energy to keep your efforts moving forward.

**Include changes in attitudes.** It's important that your team acknowledge that the disparities are multilayered and that one of those layers is the attitude that exists within your community. The problem that you've identified is only the tip of the iceberg. Under the waterline your team will discover a whole set of underlying issues that need to be taken into account if you are to develop an effective strategy.

**Listen to your heart.** To create a vision that's exciting and compelling, you've got to give yourself the freedom to dream. One way to approach this is by placing yourself into the future and looking back. What do you see? Can you picture all of the exciting changes that your team helped bring about? One point that needs to be reemphasized here is that your vision is not the same as your goals. The goals are a completely separate and will be discussed in another document.