



California Adolescent Health Collaborative Receives Packard Grant for Fact Sheets on Rural Latino Youth

OAKLAND, CA (April 22, 2011) -- The California Adolescent Health Collaborative has been awarded funding from the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health to produce and disseminate fact sheets that will provide a fuller picture about the health status of rural Latino youth in California than is currently available.

"Latinos are the largest-growing group of adolescents in the state, and we know so little about them, especially those who live in rural areas," said Sandi Goldstein, director of the collaborative, a project of the Public Health Institute. "We know so much more about urban youth. This project will shed needed light on the health issues and concerns of rural Latino teenagers."

Latino adolescents are 46 percent of California's adolescent population (10-19 years) and a majority of the children in rural areas, according to kidsdata.org, a Packard Foundation website. For example, 66 percent of the children in Tulare County are Latino. This project will draw together existing data on the health status of these young people, as well as information from interviews and focus groups, and present it to policymakers, educators and service providers.

"Documenting the issues is a key step toward addressing them," said David Alexander, MD, president and CEO of the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health, "so we are pleased to support the Public Health Institute in highlighting the health status of adolescents living in rural areas."

The [California Adolescent Health Collaborative](#) is a statewide coalition that works to increase understanding and support for adolescent health and wellness. The public-private coalition is committed to a comprehensive, assets-based, multidisciplinary approach to improving the health and well being of California's youth.

The grant is part of a Lucile Packard Foundation program to bring attention to key issues facing children, and to promote the use of data in efforts to improve children's lives. The foundation's mission is to elevate the priority of children's health, and increase the quality and accessibility of children's health care through leadership and direct investment. For more information about the foundation's programs, visit www.lpfch.org.

About the Public Health Institute

[PHI](#), an independent nonprofit organization based in Oakland, California, is dedicated to promoting health, well-being and quality of life for people throughout California, across the nation and around the world. PHI's primary methods for

achieving these goals include: sharing evidence developed through quality research and evaluation; providing training and technical assistance; and promoting successful prevention strategies to policymakers, communities and individuals.

For more information contact:

Jessica Tomlinson

Special Advisor, Planning and Communications

Public Health Institute

jtomlinson@phi.org

(510) 285-5533