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## **SNIPPET**

### **Enhancing Youth Council Participation in Rural Areas**

**Youth Council:** Golden Sierra Youth Council

**Element:** Comprehensive Approach

**Function:** Convening Local Leadership to Take Action

**Subject:** Convening Local Leadership to Take Action

**The Challenge:** The Golden Sierra Youth Council is a sub-committee of the Golden Sierra WIB. This Youth Council is made up of members from five counties that are very spread out: Placer, Nevada, El Dorado, Alpine, and Sierra. The main problem that has inhibited the work of this Youth Council over the past year is the distance Council members must travel for meetings. The least distance traveled is one hour, with the majority traveling two to three hours each way in order to attend a one- or two-hour meeting. This distance inhibits consistent member engagement with one another. The Youth Council members are dedicated and want to work together, but they had not been able to come up with a solution to adequately address the problem of distance.

**The Practices or Evidence:** Council members were made aware of the potentials of using a “bridge line” which allows for conference calling among members. The line would be purchased and “sited” at Placer County and the Youth Council members would dial in on a stated date/time and hold their meeting. Agenda would be distributed prior to the Youth Council meeting with all members having input regarding the agenda. The Golden Sierra Youth Council feels their capacity to meet regularly, identify areas of concern and connection, and work towards identified goals can be accomplished by adding a bridge line.

This phone conferencing method will make it possible for the Youth Council to meet monthly to work on targeted areas of concern.

#### **Where to Go for More Information**

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