Physicians for Social Responsibility Inc


This report represents Physicians for Social Responsibility Inc's responses to Charting Impact, a joint project of BBB Wise Giving Alliance, GuideStar USA Inc, and Independent Sector. Charting Impact uses five simple yet powerful questions to encourage strategic thinking and help organizations share concise information about their plans and progress toward impact.

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Mission:
PSR/Sacramento is a non-profit, educational organization of health care professionals and other concerned citizens committed to the following goals: •the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction •the achievement of a sustainable environment •the reduction of interpersonal violence and its causes •universal access to necessary medical care for all residents of our state and our country, without regard to income level or ability to pay Members live primarily in Sacramento County and surrounding counties: Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, San Joaquin, Solano, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba.

The content of this Charting Impact Report is the sole product and responsibility of Physicians for Social Responsibility Inc. This report does not in any way represent an endorsement from Independent Sector, BBB Wise Giving Alliance, or GuideStar, nor does it represent fulfillment of the BBB Wise Giving Alliance's Standards for Charity Accountability. For more information on Charting Impact, visit www.guidestar.org/chartingimpact
1. What are we aiming to accomplish?
PSR/Sacramento's goals include eliminating nuclear weapons and promoting alternatives to war and militarism as a means of resolving international conflict and addressing terrorism; protecting the environment and reducing man-made contributions to global warming and pollution; promoting social justice, both locally and globally; curbing the epidemic of interpersonal violence, including gun violence, that afflicts our society; and ensuring universal access to affordable medical care.

2. What are our strategies for making this happen?
The prompt for our 2014 high school scholarship essay contest was a quotation from the late South African leader and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Nelson Mandela, who said, "Education is the most powerful weapon that you can use to change the world." AT PSR/Sacramento, our focus is on educating our own members, the general public, and elected officials concerning PSR's focus areas. We seek to stimulate critical thinking in our youth through our annual high school scholarship essay contest, and we advocate evidence-based solutions, developed by applying principles of medical science, to resolving the problems identified in our focus areas.

3. What are our organization's capabilities for doing this?
We have expanded our contact list to over 1,700 people in the greater Sacramento area since our chapter was restarted in 2003. PSR/Sacramento is recognized as a credible voice in the community on issues related to our focus areas. We've succeeded in getting coverage of our issues over the past year on area newspapers, on our local public radio stations, and on state-wide television. We have developed collegial relationships with local, state, and national elected officials who view us as a source of credible information, and we've also established close working relationships with numerous other progressive organizations in the area.

4. How will we know if we're making progress?
At the age of 90, the late Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Sir Joseph Rotblat was asked what his goals were. He stated that his short term goal was to abolish nuclear weapons. His long term goal was to abolish war in all its forms. He died at the age of 92 before accomplishing either of these goals. He probably took the fact that he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1995, though, as a sign of progress. We share Sir Joseph Rotblat's goals, but we are satisfied with smaller signs of progress, such as a steadily increasing membership/contact list, a steady increase in the number of people who attend our events and the number of students who enter our essay contest, a steady increase in the media coverage of our events and issues, and a steady increase in the number of people, including elected officials, who view us as a credible source of information and workable solutions for addressing the most important issues of our time.

5. What have and haven't we accomplished so far?
We've listed some of our accomplishments above. We are seeking to restart a UC Davis student PSR chapter, but have made only limited progress toward this goal over the past year. We have not yet succeeded in abolishing nuclear weapons and conventional warfare; in ensuring justice for all; in reversing global warming and other degradation of the environment; in banning all handguns and semi-automatic firearms; and in ensuring universal access to necessary medical care for everyone in our country.