Request for Proposals Q&A
Webcast - February 2009

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What is CARE?

CARE is a community-based, community-driven,

program created to build partnerships to help communities understand and reduce toxic risks from all sources.

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Why CARE?

- Respond to community requests for help
- Develop a means to address concerns that are beyond reach of national regulation
- Integrate agency programs to improve support for communities
- Mobilize new resources and use local knowledge to achieve results
- Develop community consensus on sources of risk and risk reduction options.

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CARE Goals

- **Reduce exposures to toxic pollutants through collaborative action at the local level**

- **Help communities gain an understanding of all potential sources of exposure to toxic pollutants**

- **Work with communities to set priorities for risk reduction activities**

- **Create self-sustaining, community based partnerships that will continue to improve the local environment**

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CARE Strategies

- **Build effective collaborative partnerships**
  - o Including community organizations and residents, businesses, and governments and other appropriate partners

- **Provide information, tools, and technical assistance**
  - o To help communities understand all potential sources of exposure to toxic pollutants

- **Build consensus in communities on priorities for effective action to reduce risks**
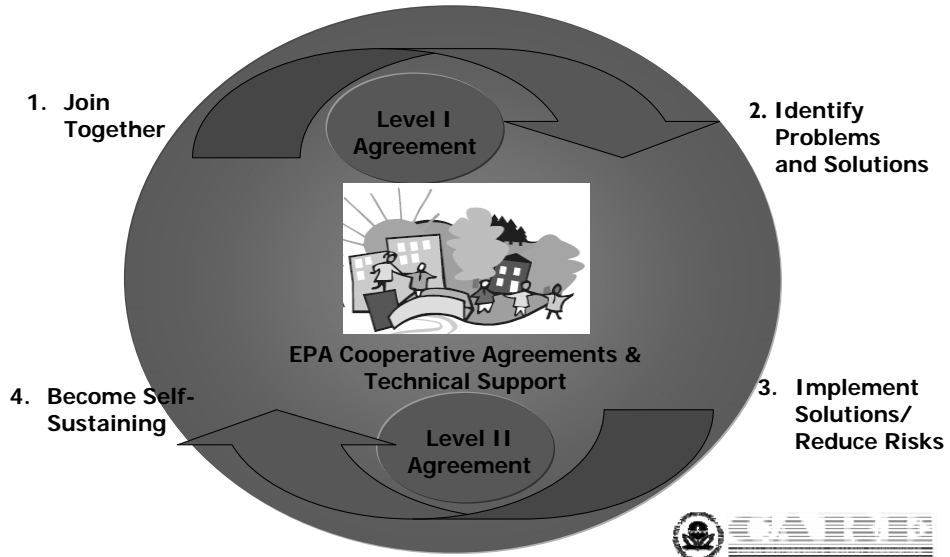
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CARE Strategies cont'd.

- **Focus on action**
  - Mobilize local resources and utilize EPA voluntary programs to implement risk reduction activities

- **Facilitate networking among CARE communities**
  - To share experiences and lessons learned

- **Build long-term community capacity**
  - To continue improving the local environment

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How CARE Works

1. Join Together

2. Identify Problems and Solutions

Level I Agreement

EPA Cooperative Agreements & Technical Support

4. Become Self-Sustaining

3. Implement Solutions/ Reduce Risks

Level II Agreement

CARE Creates Change in EPA

- CARE builds on current and past community-based programs (CBEP, Watersheds, EJ)
- Strong HQ – Regional partnership for implementation
- CARE's unique organizational structure **requires** us to work together across Agency stovepipes
- Changes the way environmental programs are framed so they are seen by EPA staff the way citizens see them
  – a cumulative risk approach
- Encourages two-way communication between EPA and communities

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How has CARE learned / grown from previous Agency experiences with community-based environmental approaches?

Organizational and management aspects further multi media goal

Funding is appropriated and administered jointly through each NPM
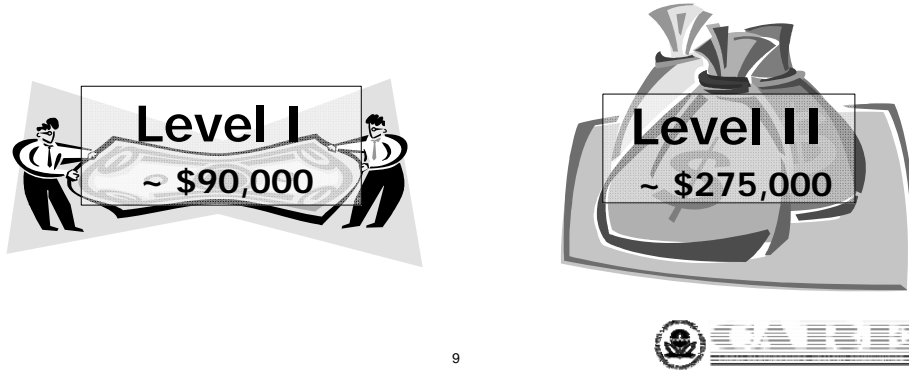
Lead rotates among the four NPMs every two years

Strong focus on assessment and evaluation

Emphasis on action

Strong HQ – Regional partnership for implementation

Funding CARE Communities

Nationally competed cooperative agreements will be awarded in two categories:

Level I
~ $90,000

Level II
~ $275,000

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After completing the Level I CA (or similar process) the community would be ready to select and carry out activities to reduce risks

> The community creates a collaborative problem solving partnership to improve understanding and set priorities.

Level II: Works to become self-sustaining

In the larger Level II agreements, the community selects and funds projects that reduce risk and improve the environment in the community.

CARE Cooperative Agreements

- FY05 12 Grants= $1.9M
- FY06 16 Grants= $2.6M
- FY07 22 Grants= $3.4M
- FY08 18 Grants Selected= $2.5 M

- 44 Level Is (avg. $90K each) = $4.2M
- 24 Level IIs (avg. $270K each) = $6.2M

68 grants to 64 communities = $10.4M

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Grants selection happens at both regional and HQ levels.

Kitty has been OW rep every year.

CARE is More than Money

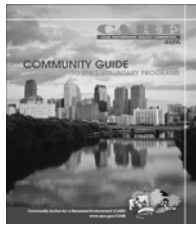**EPA works directly with communities to provide:**

- Technical support and information

- Scientific expertise and assessment

- Community planning to help identify and reduce risks

- EPA voluntary programs

- Networking opportunities

- Shared Learning

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EPA's commitment: this slide tells everyone that we are going to do something new and what it is that we will do for CARE. It explains that it is not just a grant program, but a real new commitment of agency resources to work with communities.

CARE Tools for Communities

Community Guide to EPA's Voluntary Programs

A guide of EPA voluntary programs of greatest benefit to communities

The CARE Resource Guide

A comprehensive map of EPA's on-line resources for communities

The Roadmap

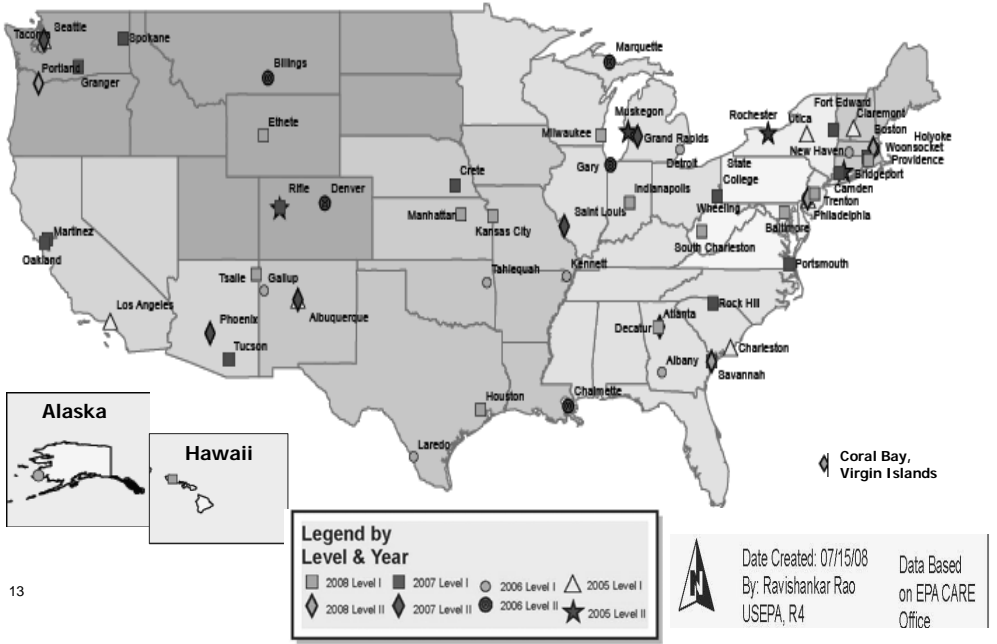A 10-step method for communities to assess and prioritize local risks

Grants Guide

A compilation of funding sources for community environmental and public health activities

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CARE COMMUNITIES 2005-2008

CARE Contacts

- **Pat Carey, CARE Cochair**
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  - 202-566-0199
- **Gale Bonanno, CARE Cochair**
  - **bonanno.gale@epa.gov**
  - 202-564-2243
- **CARE Hotline**
  - 1-877-CARE-909
- **CARE Website**
  - www.epa.gov/care

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Thank You

After viewing the links to additional resources, please complete our online feedback form.

Thank You

Links to Additional Resources

Feedback Form

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LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS. HEALTHY COMMUNITIES.
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