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PRESS RELEASE

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UNITED IU-MIEN COMMUNITY RECEIVES FUNDING TO ADDRESS FAMILY VIOLENCE IN SACRAMENTO-AREA MIEN HOUSEHOLDS

United Iu-Mien Community, Inc. (UIMC) recently received a \$25,000 grant from Sierra Health Foundation to address the problem of family violence in Sacramento's Iu-Mien community. The grant is one of 28 awarded by Sierra Health through its Responsive Grants Program. UIMC plans to use the funds to develop and implement an aggressive public education campaign combined with specific interventions targeting instances of child abuse, spouse abuse, and elder abuse.

Since its founding in 1994, UIMC has consistently taken a leadership role in helping the 12,000-member community, the largest population of Mien outside of Southeast Asia. Present services include:

- Crisis intervention, case management, information and referral, and interpretation and translation for community members.
- A weekly Senior Social Gathering, whereby some 60-80 elderly Iu-Mien gather regularly, socialize, exchange news, participate in educational workshops, and take occasional field trips.
- An annual Iu-Mien Student Conference, which provides Iu-Mien youth with the tools to complete high school and go on for higher education.
- Iu-Mien language and literacy classes for both youth and adults, thus helping equip youth and young adults bridge the gap between themselves and elderly community members.
- Cultural brokerage and linkage to the larger community.

Sierra Health Foundation awarded a total of \$571,731 to support projects that improve health and quality of life in the second 2011 Responsive Grants Program funding cycle. Through the Responsive Grants Program, Sierra Health Foundation asks nonprofit organizations and public agencies how they can promote and improve health in their communities. Since launching the program in 2008, Sierra Health Foundation has awarded more than \$4 million to provide support for 166 programs and projects.

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