



PREP Program Wins 2008 Gap Founder's Award

FSA's Preventive Recognition of Early Psychosis Program (PREP) was notified by Gap, Inc. that it has been chosen to receive one of three Gap Founders Awards offered this year. Three finalists are chosen each year and are awarded \$50,000, \$25,000 and \$10,000 respectively. The site visit which was held in August will determine the gift amount to be announced in October.

The PREP program, which holds the promise of being able to remit schizophrenia, was brought to the Gap's attention by three FSA board members who are employed at the international company. Eric Severson, Vice President HR, Gap, Inc.; Amy Solliday, Vice President, Outlet Store Operations, Gap, Inc.; and Paul Adams, Associate General Counsel at Gap, Inc. wrote, with help of the fund development staff, an application on behalf of FSA for the Gap Founder's Award – it's open every year to GAP employees only.

The PREP program is a collaborative local organizations – the University of California at San Francisco, Family Service Agency, and the Mental Health Association of San Francisco.

By employing assessment tools and treatment protocols recently developed by clinical researchers at UCSF, PREP will delay – or perhaps even prevent – the onset of psychotic symptoms among at-risk youth and young adults, lessen the disease's severity, and reduce its negative psychosocial consequences, thus improving outcomes while decreasing the social and economic costs of psychosis.

PREP provides comprehensive, integrated, community-based outreach, early assessment, and appropriate treatment for young people in San Francisco whose developing psychosis would otherwise likely go unrecognized or misdiagnosed for substantial periods



SITE MEETING - Pictured at the site meeting from the Gap Foundation are (first row) FSA Board Members Paul Adams, Associate General Counsel for the Gap. Amy Solliday, Vice President Gap Outlet Store Operations, Eric Severson, Gap Vice President of Human Resources, and our UCSF partners in the PREP program (back row) Dr. Rachel Loewey and Dr. Sophia Vinogradov.

of time. Clinical evidence suggests that PREP will substantially improve outcomes for young people with psychotic illnesses, including schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.

The Gap Founders Award is given annually, world-wide, to three projects involving Gap employees which make a difference in the community where they work.

The three Gap employees who serve on our board have a combined eight years of service to FSA and also volunteer their time in several capacities within the agency. The Founders Award also has provisions for allowing the employees to spend up to 80 hours of paid time with the project they have nominated.

The employees' application was

judged on three criteria: their passion and commitment and history of giving back, the innovation of the application, and the impact of their chosen project on the community and its ability to be replicated in others communities and with other organizations.

The August site visit was conducted by a member of the Rockefeller Foundation Advisors, who have worked with the GAP in selecting the winner applications and the Gap Foundation's Chief Foundation Officer Bobbi Stiltner.

Present at the visit were FSA PREP personnel, UCSF and the Gap Board members. The moving video testimony of a mother whose child is part of the project was played.