

Dr. Debra Stout to Leave VPCOC Board after 15 years

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Fullerton, CA. Dr. Debra Stout has announced she will soon step down from the Board of Directors of the Violence Prevention Coalition of OC (VPCOC) after being involved with the group for 15 years. Established in 1996, the VPCOC is the only county-wide affiliation of businesses, community organizations, public and private agencies, and individuals seeking to promote violence prevention through a public health model. "After 12 years on the Board of Directors, including serving as Co-Chair with my husband Dr. Dallas Stout from 2002-2010", Debra said, "now is the right time to move on. I am looking forward to getting even more involved in my local community".

Dr. Stout spent many years working for the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE), where she helped coordinate and facilitate countywide alcohol, tobacco and other drug use as well as violence prevention and positive youth development efforts. In that capacity, Debbie coordinated a nationally acclaimed gang prevention and intervention program in conjunction with the Boys and Girls Club of Westminster. Later as a consultant to the OCDE, Debbie assisted in the development of the O.C. Safe from the Start facilitator manual as well as their ongoing "train the trainer" programs. She has volunteered on the Board of Directors and Advisory Boards for a variety of local and County-wide efforts for drugs, gang and violence related issues.

Dr. Stout has demonstrated her experience and research interests at local, statewide, and international conferences including several presentations over the years given at the International Conference on Violence, Abuse, and Trauma. Dr. Stout is currently on the Faculty at both California State University Fullerton and the University of the Rockies.

Today she uses her experience to assist a variety of non-profit programs in Southern California thru DoctorS Nonprofit Consulting which she founded with her husband Dr. Dallas Stout in 2004. The Stouts provide a broad array of consultation services to non-profit and grassroots groups, coalitions, and agencies throughout Orange County. They specialize in all aspects of research including program evaluation as well as program design and grant writing. They are also available for staff or volunteer training and public speaking requests.

"15 years of service have laid the critical foundation for the Coalition's future success and for that, I thank you" said current VPCOC Chair, Dr. Mandy Mount. The mission and goals of the VPCOC are to promote the health and wellness of our community by reducing violence, changing community norms by establishing non-violence as a desired behavior, and fostering communication and collaboration among community members, stakeholders, and agencies currently addressing violence in Orange County.

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