



Success Stories from SS/HS “Graduates”

Project Director’s Consortia Meeting
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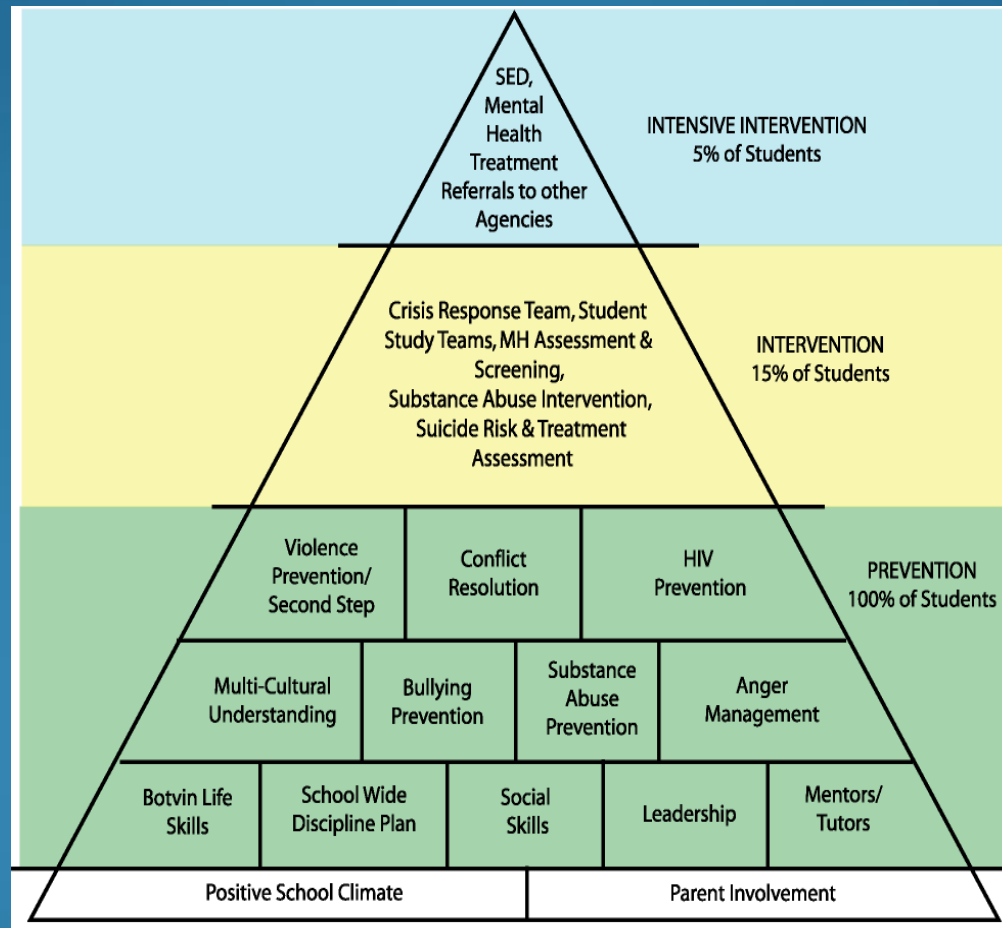
The San Diego Story

- Started with SS/HS grant in 2001.
- Established the Mental Health Resource Center (MHRC).
- Focus on general education students at high risk – intervention with expelled students, early intervention with high risk students at high feeder middle schools and prevention with preschoolers.
- Expanded beyond the grant and partnered with Mental Health in 2002, with Special Ed in 2002, with County Probation in 2005, and with County Child Welfare in 2006.

Goals of MHRC

- Establish mental health center and sustain it.
- Develop partnerships with various collaborators for sustainability and to maximize impact of services.
- Infuse school system with trained, expert mental health staff in sufficient places to change the outcomes for sub-populations of students and provide supports to education staff.

Model for Service Delivery



Prioritizing Service Delivery

1st TASK – How to prioritize services and assistance within an education setting.

- Intensive: Most difficult to serve students
- Intensive: Low incidence populations with specialized needs
- Intervention: Collaboration and technical assistance to other education staff
- Prevention: Early intervention Prevention with General Education

Intensive Services

- TYPES of Programs:

- For Special Education Emotionally Disturbed

- Day Treatment
 - Outpatient or Intensive outpatient
 - Classroom-based support services
 - Residential Treatment Oversight

- Primary partner – Community Mental Health
- Primary funders – Community Mental Health
Special Education

Intensive Services – Cont'd

TYPES of Programs: For General and Special Education

- Multi-systemic Therapy for Behaviorally Disordered Offenders
- Intensive Case Management for Psychiatrically Impaired Offenders
- Primary partners – Juvenile Justice & Community Mental Health
- Primary funders – Community Mental Health

Intervention Services

- TYPES of Programs:

- For General Education Expelled Students

- School-based – campus support services
 - School-based – outpatient services
 - Screening and assessment services

- Primary partner – Community Mental Health
- Primary funders – General Education & Community Mental Health

Intervention Services

- TYPES of Programs:

For General Education & Special Education

- School-based outpatient services
- Specialized treatment providers
- Primary partner – Community Mental Health Contractors
- Primary funders – Community Mental Health & Medicaid

Intervention Services

- TYPES of Programs:

For General Education & Special Education

- Support Services for Foster Children
- Support Services for Military Families
- Support Services for Homeless Students

- Primary partners – General Education
Military Services
Foster Care System

- Primary funders – Title II, military grants, General Education

Prevention Services

- TYPES of Programs:

For Preschool age – early intervention

- Incredible Years for Parents, Teachers, children
- Outpatient services to children & families
- Classroom-based interventions

- Primary partner – Early Childhood

Community Mental Health

- Primary funders – Community Mental Health
First Five & Medicaid

Prevention Services

- TYPES of Programs:

Suicide Prevention For All students in High School & Middle School

- Classroom-based training for students
 - School-based training for staff
 - School or community-based training for parents
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- Primary partner – Community Mental Health & Yellow Ribbon
 - Primary funders – Community Mental Health

Important Principles

- Partner, collaborate, partner!
- Watch for opportunities
- Focus on long term funding not grants
- Collect relevant data – know how many of your students belong to the various agencies
- Focus on the big picture as you build components
- Collect data on improving educational outcomes by what you do

Strategies

- Do presentations of data and outcomes as you go along.
- Use your previous relationships to start discussions, make new ones.
- Go to community meetings involving the target agency where you can meet people you can work with.
- Be willing to accept additional responsibilities as well as blend dollars to open doors.
- Engage in conversation with the Juvenile Court, Child Protective Services, Juvenile, Probation, Regional Center, Community-based child abuse prevention agencies. See how you can work together.

Serendipitous Outcomes

- Public Health approach: regular interface between mental health staff and education staff about mental health issues reduces stigmatization for individuals with emotional disorders.
- Training directly and indirectly of education staff in understanding the emotional lives of children & youth has benefits for all students.
- Expanding educators knowledge of mental health capabilities in assisting schools in gaining improved educational outcomes.

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Creating and sustaining an effective collaboration

West Chicago Elementary School District 33

Approximately 26,000 residents 37 miles west of the city of Chicago, IL

Preschool through grade 8 Student Population
2010 Enrollment - 4159

Student Demographics
71% Hispanic
64% Low income

One special education preschool, six elementary buildings, one 7-8
grade middle school

District 33 is the 2nd largest employer in the city with over 600
employees.

2005 SS/HS grantee

Compelling Reasons for Collaboration

- No one group can address the identified needs of a community
- Mosaic Approach
 - Encourages each organization and program to do what it does best, creating synergy in the design of how various components interact with each other
 - Each group brings a different piece of the puzzle to the partnership
- Allows for easier access, better coordination and enhanced service delivery
- Opportunities to leverage resources and access additional funds
- Increased accountability with the public in the wise and prudent use of resources and funds

Components of Successful Collaboration

- Process of Collaboration
 - Developing the collaborative
 - Creating the mission/vision/principles/philosophy
 - Creating goals
 - Developing infrastructure
 - Developing champions
- Director's Role
- Assessing, Growing and Sustaining the Collaboration

Collaboration Development Strategies

- Inspire a shared vision - educate to increase awareness and accountability to the “bigger picture”
- Build trust first before expecting changes across multiple systems
- Be up front with participants – collaboration can be messy
- Develop Principles of Governance to ensure fairness and clarify where each agency fits in the process
- Don't allow seat warming ... Engage parties
- Develop relationships between the group members, never give up on missing partners
- Articulate the value and good work of each member

Mission and Vision Development

- Consider your development format
 - SWOT, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats
 - Ideological framework- values
- Keep it very simple
- Start with big ideas, work out details and grammar at the end
- **Remember form follows function**

weGo Together for Kids Mission

The mission of *weGo Together for Kids*, in support of all partner agency missions, is to mobilize all segments of West Chicago schools and community to cooperate in a coordinated and comprehensive approach that addresses the health, safety, and well-being of students and families .

Setting Goals for the Collaboration

- Engage partners in creating the vision, mission and goals
- Identify cross agency goals that fit for multiple partners
- Help agencies to understand their role within the partnership, how the goals integrate with their service delivery and give them opportunities for leadership in their areas of expertise
- Use simple strategic planning methods to move the collaborative forward
 - Creates further buy-in when the partnership sees itself accomplishing its goals

Developing the Infrastructure

- Are there mandates, policy issues?
- Consider
 - governance
 - advisory function
 - representation
- Structure can evolve with the maturation of the collaboration

WeGo Together for Kids Infrastructure



Director

Foster partnerships, manage infrastructure, and facilitate service delivery



Steering Committee

Strategic plan implementation
Funding development

Work Groups

Are convened as necessary for time limited specific activities such as Family Night planning

Monthly Service Provider Group

Sets annual priorities
Coordinates service delivery
Monitors and addresses new needs or gaps

Safety Committee

supports school building safety and security
Ensures emergency preparedness
Assists with violence prevention

Social and Emotional Learning Steering Committee

Supports implementation of SEL Initiative 3 cycle plan

Wellness Committee

Goals are to increase fruit and vegetable intake, increase physical activity and decrease screen time

Medical Advisory Committee

Supports access to quality healthcare, dental care and coordination of school services

Early Learning Coalition

Promotes quality early childhood education and care

Developing Champions

- Identify and develop champions within the different areas of your partnership
- Cultivate leadership throughout the partnership
- Look for opportunities to pull together as a team. Provide ongoing conversations and activities to develop partner's understanding of the collaboration
- Build each partner's personal sense of purpose with the collaboration
- Keep your champions well informed. Avoid surprises.
- Celebrate progress and success as often as possible

Director's Role

- Create a welcoming inclusive “learning environment” for success
- Show up excited, be genuine, have mental toughness (Positive Conflict)
- Set a positive “can do” tone and lots of laughter
- Be alert... seek engagement to identify the elephant in the room
- Be fluid and open to change
- Where appropriate, be the advocate to resolve problems blocking success
- Value the work of the group more than your own ideas
- Remember the community owns the initiative - Work to make yourself insignificant

Growing the Collaboration/ Sustainability

- Annual consistent review of mission
- Ongoing assessment of community needs and collaboration membership
- Demonstrate success by developing a strong Communication Plan for community and partnership engagement
- Develop the collaboration as a learning community
- Have the collaboration regularly assess community assets and needs as well as missing representation
- Continue to build your next phase of champions and to recognize participants contributions to the cause both privately and publicly

Department of Partnerships for Wellness, Safety and Achievement

- Over 40 *weGo Together for Kids* partners
- All direct service led to an increase in student achievement
- School/community mental health model created providing access to high quality community mental health services
- Our SEL Initiative is a part of informing the design of a national implementation model.
- Our Wellness Committee initiated the creation of FORWARD- a county wide initiative to promote healthy family lifestyles and decrease childhood obesity

WeGo Together for Kids

Lessons Learned

- The facilitator role is critical and too often overlooked
- Develop champions
- Language is different between disciplines
- Everyone needs to understand systems change and collaboration

Presenter Contact Information

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- **What will your SS/HS legacy be?**
- **What challenges need to be addressed?**
- **What opportunities do you see?**





Check out the National Center website for the session materials.

www.promoteprevent.org