Implementation Science of Sexual Health in Schools

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About Us

Our Mission
As a 501(c)(3) non profit organization, we are committed to improving the health and economic well being of individuals, communities, and the state of South Carolina by preventing teen pregnancy.

Our Approach
• Communication with target market
• Customization of approaches
• Capacity building at all levels of a community
• Commitment to long-term investment
It’s Your Game, Keep It Real!
Project Overview

• SC Campaign was awarded funding from the Office of Adolescent Health in Fall 2010
  • Awarded $1.5 million per year for 5 years ($7.5 million total)
  • Replication of the comprehensive middle school curriculum

• A minimum of 24 schools, reaching over 9,600 middle school youth will participate in the program over the course of five years
  • SCC awards $570,000 per year to support implementation in 24 schools for 5 years ($2,850,000 total)
It's Your Game, Keep It Real!
Research Design

Participating Schools

12
Intervention

12
Control
It's Your Game, Keep It Real!

Project Organizational Chart

Shannon Flynn
Co-Principal Investigator

UT Houston, Curriculum Developers

Mary Prince
Co-Principal Investigator

ETR Associates, External Evaluator

Sarah Kershner
Project Coordinator

Lesley Craft
Doctoral Graduate Assistant

Chris Rollison
Technical Assistance Coordinator (& Low-Country Regional Specialist)

Johnakin HS, Marion 1
Creek Bridge HS, Marion 7
Whale Branch MS, Beaufort
Bluffton MS, Carver Edisto HS, Orangeburg 4
Beaufort MS, Beaufort

Meredith Talford
Technical Assistance Specialist (Upstate Region)

McCants MS, Anderson 5
Lakeside MS, Anderson 5

Andrea Heyward
Technical Assistance Specialist (Midlands Region)

Fairfield MS, Fairfield
Long MS, Chesterfield
New Heights MS, Chesterfield
Sandy Run K-8, Calhoun
The FIT Model:
Fidelity through Informed Technical Assistance

Teacher observations
Teacher completed fidelity logs

Weekly review of data and identification of implementation issues

Notification of TA Request

CQI meetings
Webinars
Planning meetings
Multi-site trainings
Tips & Tricks emails
Materials provided
Check-in calls
Email
Online learning modules
On-site trainings

TA Methods

TA time and strategies tracked in FileMaker Pro

Increase fidelity of implementation
Using fidelity log data

• Facilitator completes lesson log per class via online database

• Logs are reviewed weekly for timely submission and to identify issues that may impact fidelity (i.e., skipping an activity, technology issues)

• Technical Assistance (TA) is requested from appropriate TA specialist to address implementation issue

• TA specialist addresses issue through contact with site and/or training

• All TA time and strategies are tracked in central database, FileMaker Pro, and reviewed for themes
Using observation data

- Trained observer completes and submits observation log (all teachers observed at least once and each lesson observed at least once)
- Logs are reviewed weekly to identify issues that may impact fidelity (i.e., skipping an activity, technology issues)
- Technical Assistance (TA) is requested from appropriate TA specialist to address implementation issue
- TA specialist addresses issue through contact with site and/or training
- All TA time and strategies are tracked in central database, FileMaker Pro, and reviewed for themes
Strategies for using Fidelity Data

• Tips and Tricks Email

• Targeted TA (meetings/communication with TA staff)

• Targeted trainings
  – Identify need for training and partner with agency to provide specific training

A Few Things to Remember:

• Check the IVG Icon—Before the first computer lesson, please test the IVG icon to make sure it directs you to the IVG computer activities. If you are having any trouble finding the icon or if the icon doesn’t work, please notify us and your school IT specialist.

• Stay on track—It is important that you completely fill out the IVG lesson implementation logs within a few days of implementing the lesson. Not only do you receive a $50 gift card for every class with all 12 logs completed within two days of implementation but it also helps us determine ways to better support IVG implementation!

We are still looking for 4-6 volunteers who are willing to participate on the IVG Advisory Committee to help us determine best strategies for working with schools and for you all to provide the “inside scoop” on the school environment. Members of the IVG Advisory Committee will be expected to:

• Meet via conference call once per semester to discuss strategies to better support schools during this project
• Provide input and guidance via email to SC Campaign questions about working with schools (i.e., when is the best time to meet with school staff to plan implementation of the program?)
What’s Next?

- Better understanding of how fidelity is tracked in other programs.
  - Successful strategies to track fidelity
  - Ways to overcome barriers to track fidelity (i.e., cost, time)

- Better understanding of the degree to which an evidence-based program can be implemented and still produce same results
  - Determine the “tipping point” of fidelity when program is no longer producing same results