

Promoting Science-Based Approaches— Getting To Outcomes Success Stories: Center for Health Training (CHT)

About The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy: The National Campaign is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization supported largely by private donations. Our mission is to improve the lives and future prospects of children and families and, in particular, to help ensure that children are born into stable, two-parent families who are committed to and ready for the demanding task of raising the next generation. Our specific strategy is to prevent teen pregnancy and unplanned pregnancy among single, young adults. We support a combination of responsible values and behavior by both men and women and responsible policies in both the public and private sectors.

Case Study Participant: Joan Helmich, Training Director for Center for Health Training/CHT Resource Group (CHT)

Site: Multnomah County, Latino Teen Disparities Project (LTDP)

Center for Health Training (CHT) in Seattle works throughout Public Health Service Region X, which is comprised of Alaska, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon. Recently the Multnomah County (Portland, Oregon) Health District's Latino Teen Disparities Project (LTDP) partnered with CHT to help coordinate a teen pregnancy prevention program targeted at Latino youth and their families. Before partnering with CHT, LTDP worked with a consultant who was very familiar with the Promoting Science-Based Approaches-Getting to Outcome (PSBA-GTO) project and started working with LTDP at step one of the PSBA-GTO process. LTDP built upon their initial work, and partnered with CHT for assistance with developing a clear and concise logic model. Currently LTDP is working on PSBA-GTO Step Four Program Fit, exploring curricula and conducting focus groups with parents to determine which program they should implement.

Working through the PSBA-GTO process has been a logical progression that enabled LTDP to map out a firm plan of action to move them forward in addressing the needs of the community. For example, the PSBA-GTO process required the team to develop a logic model that incorporated all of the intricate parts of implementing a successful teen pregnancy prevention program. The transparent process also gave community members the opportunity to participate in and gain a more complete picture of the process, the timeline, the intermediate steps, and the potential outcomes. Through this work, LTDP was able to gain critical support from community members.

Fit. In order to involve community members, and gain community support, LTDP conducted a needs assessment. They first formed a local task force to look at the disparities within their community and how teen pregnancy relates to high school retention rates. The results of the community needs assessment, along with LTDP's diligent efforts to incorporate parent-child connectedness activities into current programs, allowed them to create a cohesive bond with the community. LTDP has

identified *iCuide!*¹ as a potential science-based program that can be implemented in the schools. Currently they are working with community health educators to implement a teen pregnancy prevention program in the local schools. In addition, LTDP is in the process of contacting parents, teens, and community leaders and holding community forums to provide input concerning the choice of a curriculum. LTDP is also planning a hands-on Latino Teen Pregnancy Summit for December 2008 for parents, teens, and community leaders to better understand the issues and develop strategies for solutions.

In summary, one of the key lessons learned from the Multnomah County experience is that the PSBA-GTO process is particularly helpful and useful for implementing a science-based program in the community. More specifically, the critical step of developing a strong Behavior-Determinant-Intervention (BDI) logic model was a key milestone for LTDP and allowed the group to set a concrete timeline. Continual efforts to reach out to and engage the community is also an important part of the process. PSBA-GTO has become a highly regarded program planning tool that resonates with the people who come in contact with it.

Author Information

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