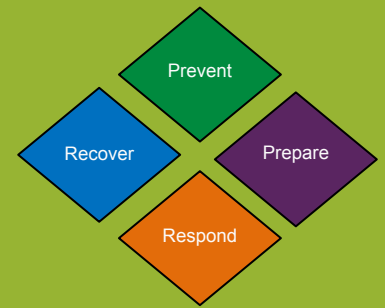


Colorado Safe Schools



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School-Based Prevention for a Lifetime of Success

“If nothing else, ask the question: ‘What’s the evidence?’ of all intervention and prevention activities you choose.”

Del Elliott, Director
Center for the Study & Prevention of Violence

The best school climates create conditions and instill habits that help students achieve academic success, feel safe and remain healthy. Schools with positive climates have teachers who are focused on teaching and students who are focused on learning.

When serious problems like drug use, bullying and aggression begin to interfere with teachers’ abilities to teach and students’ abilities to learn, the school environment will suffer and so will students and teachers. When we explore options in school-wide programs as an effective intervention or prevention strategy, our key consideration is to search for the evidence that the program works. Too many programs claim to be successful in changing behavior and then fail to make any long-term positive impact. Some even make the problem worse.

Social scientists have spent decades studying problem behaviors and ways to intervene or even prevent them. When they began, there was little hope of finding anything that would work. However, during the past 25 years there have been real advances in prevention knowledge and practices.

For almost 20 years, CSPV’s Blueprints for Violence Prevention program has analyzed evaluation data from approximately 900 programs. This work shows that the most effective intervention and prevention programs share these four base qualities:

- A strong experimental design
- A statistically significant change in the targeted behavior(s)
- Effects that are sustained for at least one year after the end of intervention
- Successful replication(s) in other settings that achieve similar results.

In an exciting new collaboration called Evidence2Success, Blueprints staff are working to combine data on problem behaviors with data on four additional areas that are critical to successful youth development:

- Educational Skills and Attainment
- Positive Relationships
- Physical Health
- Emotional Well-being

By next summer, re-engineering of the Blueprints database will include the new categories of evidence on outcomes such as graduation rates, academic performance, obesity, anxiety, depression, suicidal behavior, among others. Data will also be available on program dissemination readiness, staffing requirements, evaluation instruments, and materials required.

Data about costs and the economic benefits over time will be included, too. This will help policy makers, communities, schools and parents to better understand the options available to them.

Partners in this project, which is being funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, include researchers from the University of Washington and the Social Research Unit at Dartington in the United Kingdom.

The Evidence2Success project addresses the need for well-rounded data and emphasizes a fundamental reality: Everyone must work together to tackle the problems our young people face. Collaboration between researchers, community leaders, policy-makers, service providers, educators, and families is crucial to children’s lives and their chances for success in adulthood.

Both CSSRC and CSPV offer resources and technical assistance to schools on a variety of evidence-based prevention topics: program selection, school climate assessments, evaluations, and more.

CSPV also offers three new guides on safe school planning and program selection. Call or email today for your free copies: 303-492-1032 or safeschools@colorado.edu.

Bullying 101: Evidence-based Online Course

Hazelden and Clemson University present a new 2-hour course on bullying and cyber bullying

Learn more about bullying, its consequences, and best practices for intervention.

This course is appropriate for teachers, staff, parents and others who work with children.
A course for principals is also available.

hazelden.org/professionaled

\$50 per person. For 5% discount on individual orders, use Coupon Code: **BLUEPRINTS5**.

See colorado.edu/cspv for discounts on larger orders.



Bullying Prevention Institutes

Who Should Attend: Administrators, PBIS Teams, school safety teams, school mental health professionals and teachers

Institute Topics:

- Overview of new Colorado bullying prevention legislation and what it means for your school
- Best practices in bullying prevention
- On-the-spot interventions
- Building blocks for creating a positive school climate
- Measuring school climate
- Preventing bullying based on race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, and/or gender expression
- Cyberbullying

Location and Dates:

December 8, 2011 – 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM – Pueblo, Colorado

CSU, Pueblo – Room 109 Ballroom
Occhiato University Center
2200 Bonforte Blvd.
Pueblo, CO 81001-4901

January 25, 2012 – 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM – Metro Denver

Aurora Public Schools Professional Learning & Conference Center
15771 E. First Avenue
Aurora, CO 80011

To register:

Go to www.co.train.org and register as a **new user**; agree to the TRAIN policies and fill out the necessary information clicking “Next” on each page. Once the learner’s account is set up, click “Continue” to register for one of the Institutes. Enter the Course ID: 1028332 and select the location desired.

For questions please call the Colorado School Safety Resource Center at 303.239.4435.



For Resources on Bullying Prevention: www.safeschools.state.co.us

NEW Bullying and Harassment Prevention and Education School Resource Guide

- *Download Full Guide Here* (October 2011)
- This Colorado School Guide includes resources that may help to address bullying and harassment in schools. Compiled by the Colorado School Safety Resource Center.

NEW Bullying and Harassment Resource Links for Schools

- Created by the Colorado School Safety Resource Center (October 2011). *Download here.*

Schedule your School Climate Assesment Today!

CSPV is offering its online surveys to schools at no charge this school year. Use these surveys to collect student, staff and parent perspectives on safety, relationships, teaching & learning and the school’s physical environment. Call or email today: 303-492-1032 or safeschools@colorado.edu.