Promoting Resiliency in At-Risk Youth: Promising Practices for Encouraging Healthy Relationships via Integration of Relationship Education into Services for Youth.

August 27, 2012
How to Ask Questions

1. Click on the word “Q&A”

2. Type your question in the top box

3. Click on the word “Ask” to submit your question
Presenters

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• **Ted Futris**, Ph.D., *Training and Technical Assistance*, National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families

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• **Gilbert Chavez**, Program Specialist, Child Support Family Initiatives, Office of the Attorney General
Webinar Goals and Objectives

- Describe promising practices for integrating healthy marriage and relationship education into services that promote youth resiliency
- Share strategies and examples of how to develop a plan of action for integrating healthy marriage education skills into existing services
- Describe how the National Resource Center can assist with the integration process
National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families

- **Mission:** Connecting healthy marriage education skills and safety-net services as an integrated approach to strengthening families
What We Offer

• Research that supports and promotes integration of healthy marriage education skills

• Resources, tips, and tools to use and share with the families you serve

• Training and technical assistance to support stakeholders like you, as you work to implement integration strategies
Promotes Youth Resiliency

• Interpersonal skills learned will translate to multiple contexts and situations
• Youth educated about healthy relationships are likely to have a higher level of functioning and less need for support services
• Accurate and timely information may help decrease the occurrence of negative youth behaviors
• Relationship education is relevant to diverse youth populations
Levels of Integration

Level 1
- Basic Engagement

Level 2
- Partnerships

Level 3
- Full Integration
Examples of Integration

Level 1: Basic Engagement
- Place handouts in schools and centers that provide youth related services.

Level 2: Partnerships
- Identify community partners to refer youths to or to bring relationship education skills programming onsite.

Level 3: Full Integration
- Train staff or volunteers to offer relationship education skills through schools and out of school programs.
Integration: Promoting Family Safety

• 15 million children living in poverty. (FIFCFS, 2011)
• 12 million victims of intimate partner violence within a year. (CDC, 2011)
• Nearly 6 million children referred to CPS annually, mostly for neglect. (CB, 2011)
Neglect & Dating Violence

Chart: The more neglect experienced as a child, the greater the probability of violence to a dating partner.

- For Women:
  - % Who Assaulted Partner in previous 12 months
  - Line graph showing increasing probability with higher neglect quintile.

- For Men:
  - Line graph showing increasing probability with higher neglect quintile.

Note: *p < .001 Controlling for SES, Age, Length of Relationship, and score on Limited Disclosure Scale.

Integrating Family Safety – Sample Strategies

• Pamphlets on healthy relationships; signs of dating abuse
• Family safety curriculum unit
• Risk assessment w/response based on level of risk.
  o Mandated report to child protective services/referral to law enforcement
  o Referral to other service providers e.g., mental health, substance abuse trtmt.
  o Solution-building with student
Integrating Marriage and Relationship Education into State Services for Youth

Gilbert Chavez
Program Manager, Child Support Initiatives
Texas Office of the Attorney General
What is P.A.P.A.?

- Parenting and Paternity Awareness Curriculum developed by the Texas Child Support Division
- Intended for middle and high school students as well as parenting teens
- Delivered through health classes and teacher led activities
Why did Child Support Develop P.A.P.A.?

- > 40% children born to unmarried parents
- Legal issues of parenting and child support
- Prevent negative child support issues later
- Functions as child support outreach and education
P.A.P.A. Integration and Related Challenges

- Available through schools and parenting related programs
- Provides required training
- Ensuring the retention of P.A.P.A. participation through legislation changes
Elements for Achieving a Successful Integration

- Providing in-person teacher trainings
- Emphasizing P.A.P.A.’s difference from sex education
- P.A.P.A becoming a mandatory program
- Cost of P.A.P.A. curriculum
P.A.P.A. Effectiveness and Applicability

• Evaluated by the LBJ School of Public Affairs

• Approximately $1 per student outreached

• P.A.P.A. is being adapted by 10 other states

• Created with public funds, therefore can be shared with other states
SURVEY QUESTION

I understand steps that my agency/school/program can take in order to integrate relationship education into our services.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
Promising Practices: Lessons Learned for Integrating Healthy Marriage and Relationship Education

John Barner
National Resource Center for Healthy Marriage and Families
Building Effective Partnerships

- Networking across agencies
- Connecting with schools, community organizations, and childcare
- Engaging families
- Engaging teachers
- Engaging others
Building Community and Political Support

• Information Sharing

• Making the connection across services
  o Education
  o Child Support
  o Child Welfare

• Educating supporters
Crafting the Message

- Messages to peers and partners
- The public message
- Messages to families and participants
- Importance of strong developmental resources for families.
Effective Strategies

- Strategic planning
- Recruitment & retention
- Addressing special circumstances
- Adapting for diverse populations
- The right curriculum and facilitators
I understand ways to overcome challenges and barriers to integration of relationship education into my agency’s service delivery.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
Research and Statistics

The nature of marriage and families is constantly changing as we learn and implement best practices for strengthening these relationships. Here you will find the latest information on current trends most relevant to enrichment programs and best practices.

These publications provide a framework for helping to couple and marital health and offer concise summaries on how healthy marriages impact children, adults and communities.

What is a Healthy Marriage? (PDF, 116 KB)

Why Marriage Matters, 3rd Edition: Thirty Conclusions from the Social Sciences

The Taxpayer Costs of Divorce and Unwed Childbearing (PDF, 1413 KB)

Research Trends and Reports

In addition to highlighting the latest relevant research and reports related to healthy marriage and families, this section provides resources that articulate the connection between those issues and the broader impact on society and safety-net services.

Family Structure and Children's Educational Outcomes (PDF, 43 KB)

Marriage & Family Wellness: Corporate America's Business? (PDF, 303 KB)

Additional research and reports are available in our Library on a wide range of topics such as Youth, Marriage, Family Formation, Family Safety, Cohabitation, Divorce, Step-families, etc.
The National Resource Center can Help

- Resource Center Website
- Searchable Library
- Stakeholder Specific Products
- Virtual Learning Center
- Training and Technical Assistance
Expertise Behind the Center

• Research, Program Design and Implementation, Organizational Development, Policy Analysis, Public-Private Partnerships, Strategic planning, etc.
SURVEY QUESTION

I know more about resources available from the National Resource Center and how these can assist in integration of relationship education into my agency’s service delivery.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
Future Training and Technical Assistance Efforts

- Future Webinars
- Online training opportunities
- Regional/State Integration Institutes
- Individualized Technical Assistance
POST-SURVEY QUESTION

Are you likely to talk with others at your organization about integration of relationship education into your current services/role at work?

- Yes
- Possibly / not sure
- No
POST-SURVEY QUESTION

Are you likely to use the National Resource Center for resources or training/technical assistance in the future?

- Yes
- Possibly / not sure
- No
POST-SURVEY QUESTION

Please rate your overall satisfaction with today’s webinar:

- Very Unsatisfied
- Not Satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor Unsatisfied
- Satisfied
- Very Satisfied