Implementing Community Based Violence Intervention Strategies

Promoting CVI Success: Meaningful Measures and Effective Communication
Welcome & Introduction

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Join the conversation

Be part of this CVI movement! Help raise awareness. Share the message. You are part of the solution.

#CVIStrengtheningCommunities
Setting the Stage

Nancy La Vigne, PhD
Director, National Institute of Justice
Need for purposeful, meaningful measurement

• Informs the development, implementation, and evaluation of CVI initiatives

• Yields benefits through engagement of community members in inclusive research processes

• Supports the evolution and sustainability of CVI initiatives

• Helps communicate effectively and persuasively
What is research evidence?

• Can be quantitative (numbers) or qualitative (descriptions)

• Ranges from randomized controlled trials to narratives of lived experience

• The best evidence combines the two

• Evaluation findings are one type of research evidence
Why is evaluation important?

• Measures program implementation

• Quantifies successful program impacts

• Makes the case for more resources to improve, sustain and expand
Components of Evaluation Process

• Baseline data collection
• Ongoing performance measurement
• Impact evaluation
• Communication of findings
Baseline data collection

Where are the needs? Who is the population?
What is the problem you are trying to solve?

• Helps inform program development
• Identifies needs → Guides development of tailored programs
• Provides point of comparison from which to measure impact
Measure as you go – and share early & often!

• Logic models
  • Help identify what to implement and what to measure
  • Keeps focus on shared vision for action

• Performance metrics assess:
  • Implementation fidelity
  • Shorter- and longer-term outcomes

• Feedback loop:
  • Called “Action Research”
  • Research partners share findings w/ program stakeholders
  • Enables refinements along the way
Partnering with researchers

• The best research partners:
  • Embrace inclusive research principles
  • Support action research
  • Approach work with racial equity lens
  • Are humble and open to community perspectives

• The best programmatic partners:
  • Make program staff, participants, and data available
  • Are open to both positive and constructive feedback
  • Are curious and inquisitive

• Requires trust building on both sides
Communicating your findings

• Target your message to your audience
  • Programmatic partners: emphasize implementation fidelity
  • Community residents and stakeholders: hold “data walks”
  • Funders and public officials: feature empirical data

• For all audiences:
  • Harness the power of numbers & narratives
  • Perceptions matter as much as hard numbers
  • Don’t shy away from areas in need of improvement
Funding for CVIPI Evaluation

• Evaluation of CVIPI projects

• Provision of training and technical assistance to support evaluation efforts and violence problem analysis

• Research on other programs with a community violence focus
Today’s Panelists

Eddie Bocanegra, Senior Advisor, Office of the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs

Dr. Shani Buggs, Assistant Professor, University of California, Davis

Dr. Phillip W. Graham, Senior Center Director, RTI International

Dr. Henrika McCoy, Centennial Fellow in Services to Children and Families and Associate Professor, The University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Yasser Arafat Payne, Professor, University of Delaware