

Building Infrastructure to Implement Programs that Promote Healthy Development and Prevent Behavioral and Mental Health Problems in Our Youth

Online Tools for Locating Evidence-Based Prevention Interventions

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**National Prevention Science
Coalition to Improve Lives
(NPSC)**

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What are Evidence-Based Interventions (EBIs)?

Interventions that have been:

- Rigorously tested,
- Proven effective,
- Translated into models available to community-based organizations.

Evaluations subjected to critical peer review by.....

Experts in the field who have examined the evaluation's methods and agreed with its conclusions about the intervention's effects.



How to Identify EBIs and where to find them?

Online Clearinghouses

- Means et al., 2015, p. 101: *“Assess applied research and evaluation studies of programs/interventions according to evidentiary (evidence-based) standards”* to identify effective interventions.
- Focus on the results from high-quality research to answer the question **“What works?”**
- Generate an inventory of **Evidence-Based Interventions (EBIs)**.
- Up to 24 online clearinghouses within the U.S. and Europe alone.
- Funders use ratings of EBIs to inform decisions of awarding federal, state, and local prevention dollars.

Means, S., Magura, S., Burkhart, B. R., Schroter, D. C., & Coryn, C. L. S. (2015). Comparing rating paradigms for evidence-based program registers in behavioral health: Evidentiary criteria and implications for assessing programs. *Evaluation and Program Planning, 48*, 100-116.

Presentation #1:

Scaling up Evidence-Based Interventions in US Public Systems to Prevent Behavioral Health Problems

Abby Fagan, PhD

EBI Knowledge

- **Facilitator:** What Works registries provide information on EBIs
 - *e.g., Blueprints, Crime Solutions, WWC*
- **Barrier:** Registries are not well known and don't provide all information needed to understand, compare, and select EBIs
- **Recommendation:** Support (state-level) *intermediary organizations* to help systems leaders and staff navigate registries

U.S. Federal Online Clearinghouses

SAMHSA's National Registry of Effective Prevention Programs (NREPP) launched in 1995 and suspended in 2018 (**Outcome Focus: Substance abuse, Mental disorders**).

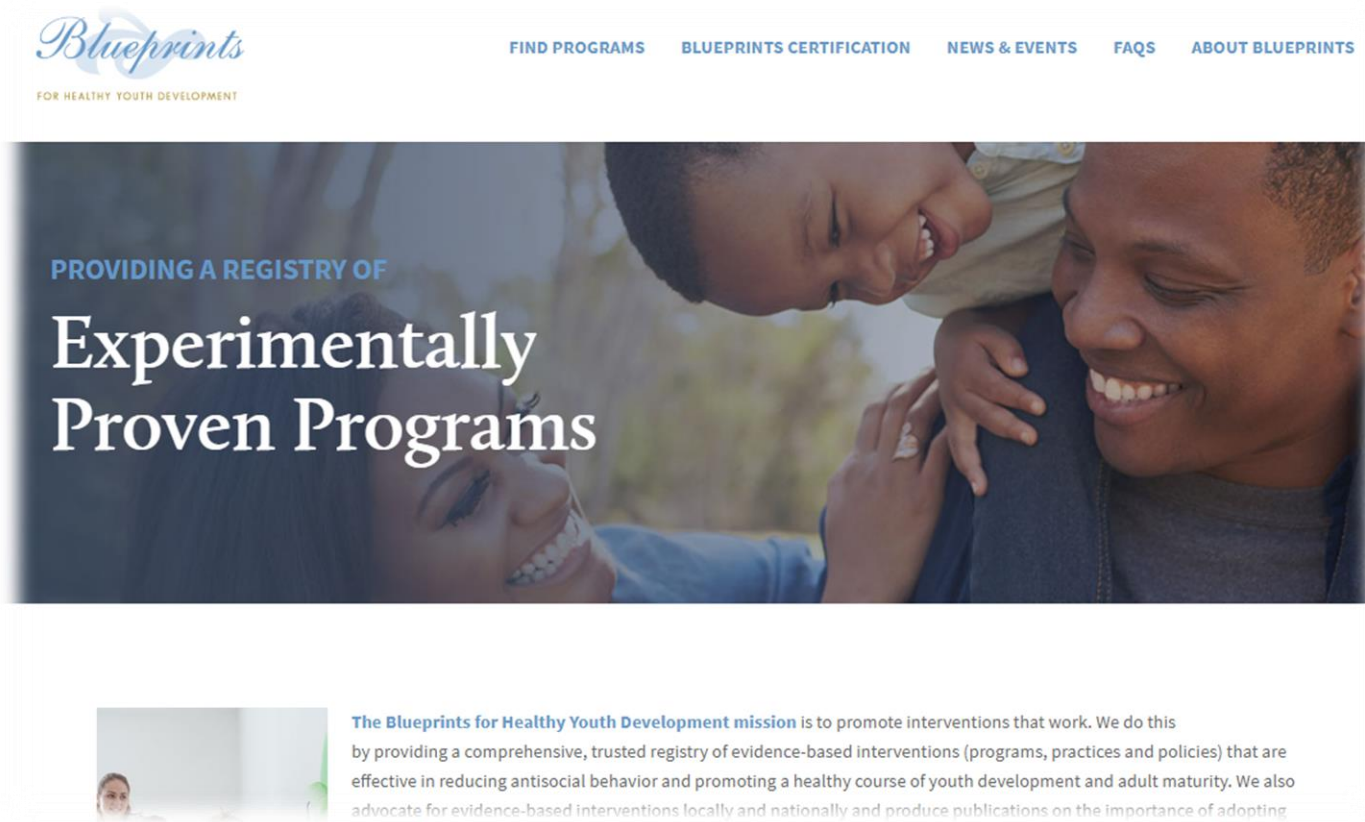
Outcomes are specific to each Federal agency



Clearinghouse	Department	Logo	Outcome Focus
CLEAR: Clearinghouse for Labor and Eval Research	Labor		Employment
CrimeSolutions	Justice		Crime
HomVEE: Home Visiting Evidence of Effectiveness	HHS-ACF		Child Development, Maternal Health
PSC: Prevention Services Clearinghouse	HHS-ACF		Child Welfare, Home Placement
WWC: What Works Clearinghouse	Education		Achievement, Teacher Effectiveness
P2W: Pathways to Work Evidence Clearinghouse	HHS-ACF		Poverty, Homelessness

Note: HHS-ACF: Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development



Goal: To provide communities, policymakers, agencies and researchers with a trusted guide to youth prevention programs that work.

www.blueprintsprograms.org





Upstream Prevention

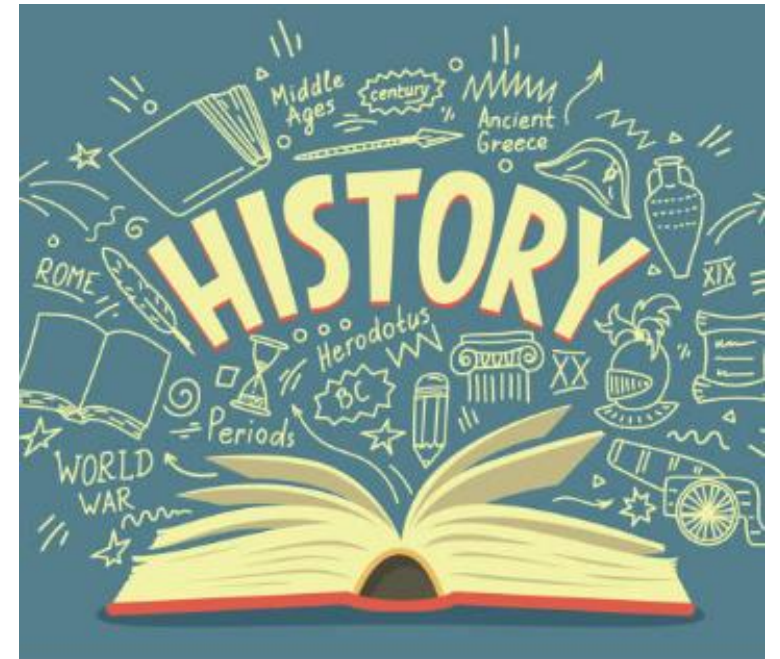
30+ years of prevention research shows it is possible to reduce negative health outcomes – including violence, suicide, and substance misuse – *before they ever start*.

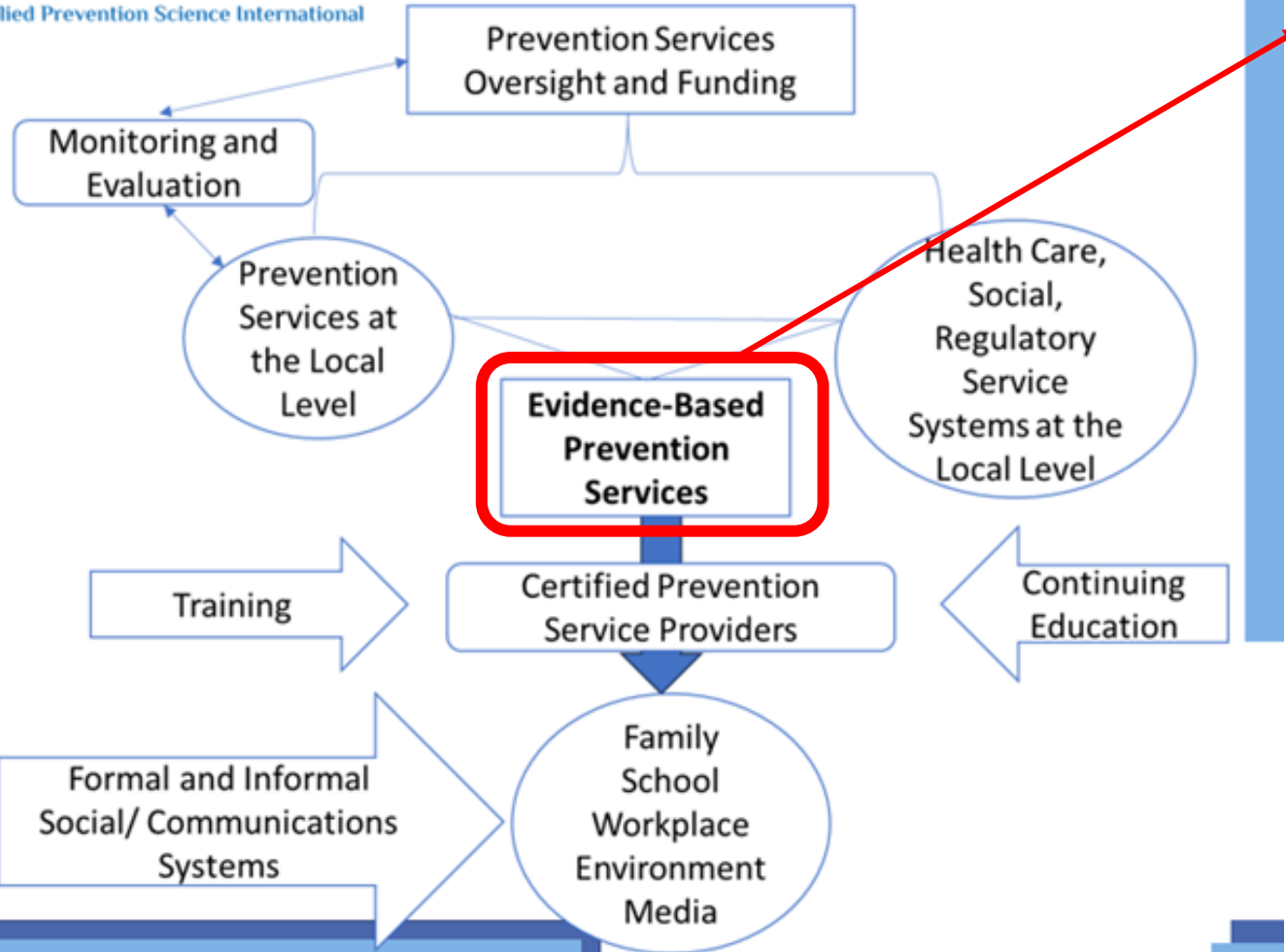
Determining and addressing the root causes and conditions that contribute to negative health outcomes is known as **Upstream Prevention**.

Goal is to build resilience, decrease risk factors, and build protective factors to have impacts on individual and public health downstream.

Blueprints provides a **registry of effective "upstream prevention" EBIs** implemented at individual, family, school, and community levels that improve child development, support families, and enhance school experiences.

- Started in 1996 by Dr. Delbert S. Elliott.
- Reviewed 2,977 studies and 1,612 programs.
- 113 have met Blueprints standards.
- As of July 1, 2024, Blueprints will not be updating its website until additional funding is secured.
- The registry, however, will remain available with robust resources in support of youth.
- Go to www.blueprints.org to read more about this announcement.





- What “Pieces” Are In Place Now
- Epidemiologic Data Sets – National and State
 - Evidence-based services—Source of Information
 - Training of prevention professionals—just beginning
 - Credentialing and licensing—just beginning
 - Funding—should be consistent and adequate

Access to EBIs in micro-level environments to include:

- Parenting and Family-Skills Programs that:
 - Enhance parenting practices
 - Enhance family communications and support
- School Programs that:
 - Create safe and supportive school experiences to include school climate
 - Enhance performance
 - Enhance life-skills



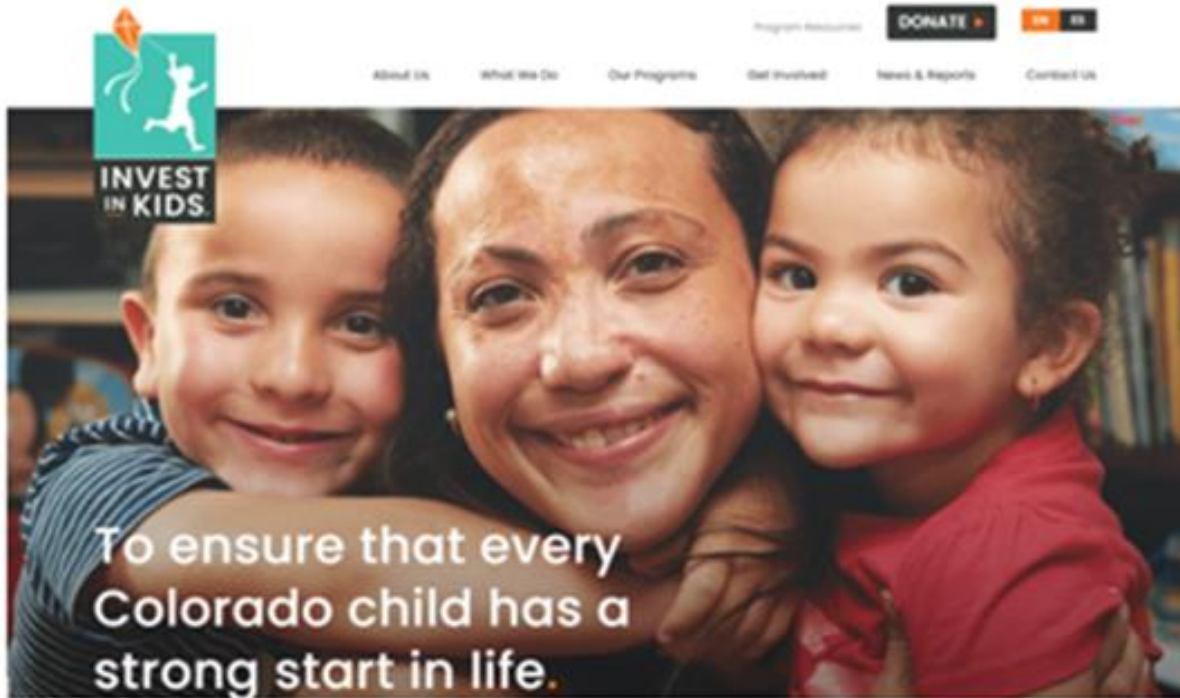
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INVEST IN KIDS is a nonprofit organization that works alongside Colorado communities to adopt, implement, and successfully scale proven programs that have the greatest long-term impact on young children and families experiencing poverty.

Statewide Public and Private Initiatives

- [CO House Bill 22-1295](#) (Department Early Childhood and Universal Preschool Program) requires funding be allocated to programs meeting Blueprints' evidence standards
 - *"Be identified by the University of Colorado as a proven, evidence-based intervention to support healthy youth development" (p. 101)*
- State funds are matched with private donations to scale three EBIs on Blueprints across communities throughout CO.



National Philanthropic Foundation and Community Partnerships

Brings together public-system leaders and community members to:

- Understand how children are doing with the help of data.
- Select EBIs to enhance strengths and address needs.
- Develop financing and action plans to support the ongoing use of those proven programs.

Evidence2Success™ provides cities and states with a road map for involving communities in making smart investments in evidence-based programs.

Evidence2Success tools include:

- **The Evidence2Success Youth Experience Survey:** The survey provides public agencies and communities with a “big picture” look at the well-being of children and young people and the strengths and challenges that influence their development. Survey results describe the links between risks, protective factors and well-being and highlight areas in which public agencies and communities should focus their program investments.
- **Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development:** Blueprints makes it easy to match the strengths and needs of children and young people to cost-effective, evidence-based programs designed to help.
- **Strategic Financing Tool Kit for Tested, Effective Programs:** This tool kit outlines a five-step strategic finance planning process geared toward supporting programs that serve children and families. It aims to help public and community leaders work together to examine what they want to finance, how their current investments align with their financing goals, and which strategies can help them achieve these goals.
- **Using What Works:** A webinar series highlighting tools of the Evidence2Success framework.
- **A Road Map to Quality Collective Impact Programming With Fiscal Independence:** This report examines how the Children and Youth Cabinet of Rhode Island (CYC) — a coalition of organizations, systems, residents and youth organized around community-generated priorities — has changed since adopting the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Evidence2Success framework seven years ago. CYC’s evolution generated valuable insights that can help other collective impact programs pursue sustainability and fiscal independence.
- **Evidence2Success in Providence:** This report offers an early look at how the Evidence2Success site in Providence implemented its action plan and the lessons local leaders have learned along the way.

How has my
thinking
evolved
since
beginning
this work?

Highlight studies to express three themes:

1. Harmonize across clearinghouses (confusion over ratings).
2. Expand focus from internal validity (“What works”) to consider external validity (“For whom, what settings?”)
3. Outreach is needed to enhance uptake of EBIs.

External validity
("What works,"
"For whom, what
settings?")

885 programs
with evaluations
published from
2010-2021 and
recorded in the
Blueprints
database.



Racial and Ethnic Representation in Preventive Intervention Research: a Methodological Study

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Abstract

Individuals who are Asian or Asian American, Black or African American, Native American or American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and Hispanic or Latino (i.e., presently considered racial ethnic minoritized groups in the USA) lacked equal access to resources for mitigating risk during COVID-19, which highlighted public health disparities and exacerbated inequities rooted in structural racism that have contributed to many injustices, such as failing public school systems and unsafe neighborhoods. Minoritized groups are also vulnerable to climate change wherein the most severe harms disproportionately fall upon underserved communities. While systemic changes are needed to address these pervasive syndemic conditions, immediate efforts involve examining strategies to promote equitable health and well-being-which served as the impetus for this study. We conducted a descriptive analysis on the prevalence of culturally tailored interventions and reporting of sample characteristics among 885 programs with evaluations published from 2010 to 2021 and recorded in the *Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development* registry. Inferential analyses also examined (1) reporting time trends and (2) the relationship between study quality (i.e., strong methods, beneficial effects) and culturally tailored programs and racial ethnic enrollment. Two percent of programs were developed for Black or African American youth, and 4% targeted Hispanic or Latino populations. For the 77% of studies that reported race, most enrollees were White (35%) followed by Black or African American (28%), and 31% collapsed across race or categorized race with ethnicity. In the 64% of studies that reported ethnicity, 32% of enrollees were Hispanic or Latino. Reporting has not improved, and there was no relationship between high-quality studies and programs developed for racial ethnic youth, or samples with high proportions of racial ethnic enrollees. Research gaps on racial ethnic groups call for clear reporting and better representation to reduce disparities and improve the utility of interventions.

Keywords Clearinghouse · Registry · Racial equity · Evidence-based intervention · External validity · Diversity · Generalizability

Key Findings

- Program Design – Culturally Grounded:
 - Black or Af Am youth (2% of programs)
 - Hispanic or Latino youth (4% of programs)
- Sample Demographics:
 - 77% of studies reported race; of those
 - White (35% of enrollees)
 - Black or Af Am (28% of enrollees)
 - 31% collapsed across race or categorized race with ethnicity
 - 64% reported ethnicity; of those
 - 32% of enrollees were Hispanic or Latino

Culturally grounded: *Co-designed (community/researcher)*

with a specific culture in mind to reflect the values, behaviors, and norms of the target population (Ai et al., 2023).

Conclusions

More culturally-grounded EBPIs and better reporting are needed to advance programs that reduce racial disparities and to determine whether communities with unique demographic features (e.g., rural location, specific racial, ethnic groups, etc.) have been studied.

Thank you!

The image features the words "Thank you!" written in a highly decorative, hand-drawn style. The letters are thick and bubbly, with each letter filled with a different color and decorated with intricate patterns. The 'T' is yellow with a red zig-zag pattern. The 'h' is orange with a red zig-zag. The 'a' is green with a black dotted border. The 'n' is purple with a black dotted border. The 'k' is orange with a red zig-zag. The 'y' is green with a black dotted border. The 'o' is pink with a black dotted border. The 'u' is blue with a purple zig-zag pattern. The exclamation point is blue with a green center and a black dotted border. Surrounding the text are several colorful flowers: a blue flower with a purple center, a pink flower with a yellow center, and a blue flower with a purple center. There is also a blue teardrop shape at the end of the word 'you!' and a small blue flower with a green center below it.