

SKILLS FOR SUCCESS: SUPPORTING AT-RISK HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS [5225]

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Workshop Summary

There are few studies assessing the effectiveness of programs that combine whole school discipline with specialized supports for high-risk youth. This paper describe the background and procedures of a comprehensive approach to support high-risk adolescents, implemented in concert with a whole school discipline system. Methods for building school capacity, and collaborating families and community agencies will be presented. Examples will focus on a special project funded by the Oregon Department of Education and the U.S. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to support at-risk high school students in Oregon.

Workshop Objectives

1. Outline the features of a public health intervention model as applied in schools;
2. Describe the developmental pathway of antisocial and violent behavior from early childhood through adulthood;
3. List 3-6 major risk factors that violent children may have been exposed to and how those factors affect the development of maladaptive behavior;
4. Describe two preferred interventions for antisocial and violent behavior at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of prevention (2 at each level). Identify at least one study supporting the efficacy of the intervention.

Activities

- Complete an assessment of school discipline systems at the school wide and individual student level and identify areas for improvement. Develop improvement goals and action steps.
- Describe how to identify, assess and intervene with students using universal, selective and targeted interventions aimed at reducing problem behavior and school violence.
- Describe and implement the features of best practice interventions for high-risk youth and identify programs that are not in place in your school district.
- Using school-based adult mentors
- Designing function based-support plans for any student
- Teaching Self-management
- Responding to escalating behavior

- Communicating and collaborating with families
- Working with community service agencies
- Using alternatives to traditional out of school suspension and punitive discipline
- Set goals for system change and improvement in schools. Participants will develop a personal action plan to implement upon returning to the school district.