

Building a System of Prevention: A Foundation for the Future

A system in which individual programs, practices, policies, or initiatives are implemented as independent strategies, yet each is part of a larger infrastructure designed to ensure healthy children, youth, and families.

Common Framework
Consistent Measurements
Common Goals and Priorities
Logical Linkages

Key Principles

- Strengths-based and outcome-focused approaches
- Data-driven decisions
- Logical and synergistic linkages between programs and practices
- Shared resources and joint accountability for outcomes
- Program and system level evaluation
- Emphasis on subpopulations where need is highest (Considers geography and racial/ethnic/socioeconomic disparities)

Set of Common Goals

Children are physically fit with good nutritional habits
Children enter kindergarten fully ready to succeed
Children and youth are safe from violence and bullying

Children are born healthy – there are no disparities
Families have skills and supports needed to raise healthy and thriving children
All youth are succeeding academically – there are no disparities
Families are connected to their communities and schools
Children and youth are free from alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs
Children and youth are mentally well

What Does it Look Like in Practice ?

- Coordinated and collaborative (in planning, too!)
- Communication of all the “moving parts”
- Shared responsibility for some common outcomes
- Multi-agency and multi-disciplinary
- Sharing of information and resources
- Focus is beyond the individual—emphasis includes the impact of and on the broader social environment (family, community, school, neighborhood)
- Taps into the expertise of stakeholders/partners

PARTNERS

Community & Recreation Services
Community Services Board
Department of Administration
Department of Family Services
Department of Systems Management
Health Department
Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts
Office for Women
Fairfax County Public Schools
Police Department
Community-Based Organizations
Local Health Organizations
Faith-Based Organizations

Individual **Family** **Community** **School**
Areas of Influence and Impact