

We Are Change: Richmond County Partners Working

Together

Healthcare GA Foundation
Connections 2014 Conference

GCAPP



GEORGIA CAMPAIGN FOR
ADOLESCENT POWER & POTENTIAL
Education • Prevention • Action
For Adolescent Health

Presenter: Donna Elliston, DrPH, MSPH

Date: April 22, 2014

OBJECTIVES

- Identify the value of a multi-agency/multi-disciplinary approach
- Discuss the importance of community linkages between youth-serving organizations (YSOs) and clinical partners to foster sustainability
- Increase capacity building among community partners

Project Goal

- Implement a communitywide initiative to reduce pregnancy and births among teenagers in Richmond County (Augusta, GA)
- Bring together diverse community partners representing multiple sectors in RC to form, “We Are Change- Richmond County for a Brighter Future”

Community Mobilization Approach to Pregnancy Prevention

- **“We Are Change”**: Community partnerships
- Broader community mobilization strengthened by diversity in partners



Richmond County Community Partners

Program Partners

100 Black Women of Augusta
100 Black Men of Augusta
The Augusta Mini-Theater
Rape Crisis and Sexual Assault Services
Fort Gordon Youth Challenge Academy
Planned Parenthood
Augusta State University
Jones Behavioral Health
Kids Restart, Inc.
New Bethlehem Community Center

Clinic Partners

Richmond County Health Dept. Family Planning
South Augusta Health Dept. Family Planning
Planned Parenthood Southeast
Georgia Regents University

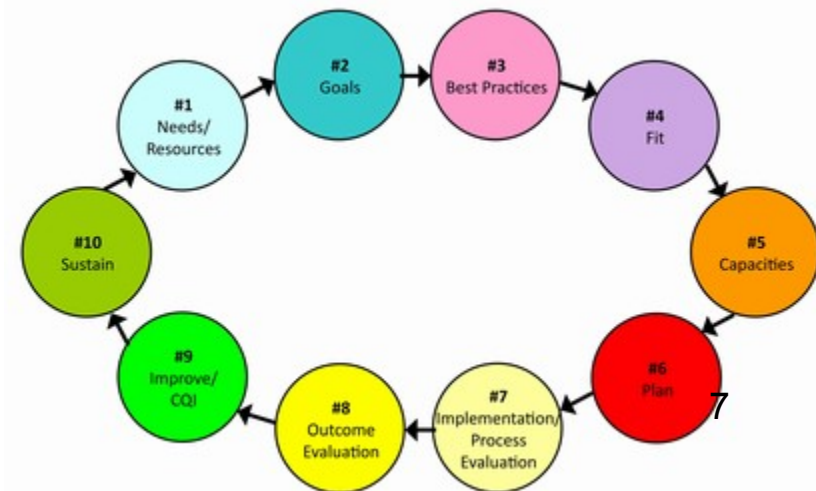


“We Are Change” Key Priority: Establishing Linkages

- Establishing linkages between teen pregnancy prevention program partners and clinics that serve at risk youth from the target community
 - Ability to get needed resources and information in the hands of youth and their parents
 - Enhanced effectiveness of referrals for youth who are engaged in risky sexual behavior

GTO Roundtables

- Getting To Outcomes (GTO) framework was developed by Dr. Abe Wandersman as a planning tool to assist community partners in the selection and implementation of evidence-based programs



GTO Roundtables

- GCAPP trainers divided community partners into two smaller groups, consisting of a combination of YSOs and clinics working together
- YSO-clinic collaboration helped to foster linkages, communication, and camaraderie

Successes

- Increased awareness and support for evidence-based teen pregnancy prevention programs
- Promote clinical best practices and access to comprehensive reproductive health services



Successes

- Leverage funds to provide LARCs
 - One clinical partner leveraged funds from a private donor to cover 100% cost of LARCs among adolescent patients



Areas for Growth

- Getting teen pregnancy prevention evidence-based programs into RC school system
- Continued funding for LARC coverage



Strengthening Capacity to Enhance Healthcare Access, Provision and Quality: Same Public Health problem, slightly different solutions

Feminist Women's Health Center
By

Carmen Garcia, Program Coordinator
Jane Gatimu, Project Coordinator





History of FWHC



- Founded 1976, Incorporated 1977. Two founding mothers both named Lynn began our “herstory” .
- Mission: provides accessible, comprehensive gynecological healthcare to all who need it without judgment. As innovative healthcare leaders, we work collaboratively within our community and nationally to promote reproductive health, rights and justice. We advocate for wellness, uncensored health information and fair public policies by educating the larger community and empowering our clients to make their own decisions.”
- Impact: Approx. 6,000 clinic visits for gynecological health care; 12,000+ served by outreach and educational activities, and millions more impacted by the public policies we help to pass, amend, or defeat.

LIFTING LATINA VOICES INITIATIVE





Our goal



- LLVI is an educational, community mobilization and leadership development program that is sensitive to the Latin American culture.
- We are interested in addressing the health disparities that Latinos experience.
- Our goal is to educate Latinas on all reproductive health care services available and to help them recognize that unequal access to these services impact negatively the reproductive health outcomes in their community.

OUR MODEL

I. Capacity Building

- For the *Promotoras de Salud*, who are community resources for information on reproductive and sexual health and how to access affordable quality care
- For volunteer and interns, providing them opportunities to support the *promotoras* and the overall goals to the program
- By providing leadership development program for Latinas so that they can advocate for themselves and sustain access to healthcare
- By sharing expertise, knowledge and resources to other partner organizations

II. Partnerships



- By implementing and working in collaboration with diverse agencies, groups and individuals.
- As a means to maximize resource, ensure program quality, exchange knowledge, advocate for those we represent, strengthen the capacity of future health and community leaders, reach more Latinas and educate on reproductive and sexual health while integrating other relevant issues such as immigration, domestic violence and economic empowerment.

Lessons-Learned

- There is desire and willingness to collaborate but strategies are not well-defined yet to ensure continuity
- Resources are limited and the demands of the community are numerous and more than our current resources can address.
- There is a need and opportunity for better collaboration in order to maximize resources and ensure integrated and quality health programs.



Addressing Healthcare Access, Cost and Quality in Clinical Practice

- Operation Model
 - Non-profit
 - Re-investing in our clients
- Patient centered care



Addressing Affordability in clinical practice

- Sliding scale fee structure
- Free service (eligibility)
- Insurance
- LARC program
 - Funding for devices





Addressing Access in clinical practice

- Specialized programs
 - Culturally appropriate and inclusive
- Diversity in staffing resources
- Referral Systems
 - Refer clients for additional services or support
 - Clinical support to match client needs
- Training
 - Practical training of future providers



Successes

- Volunteer and intern support
- Specialized programs
- Education targeting culturally diverse communities
- Re-investing in our clients





Challenges / Gaps:

- More partnerships needed
- Access for rural communities



Opportunity

- Improving quality of clinical care
- Intersect and Act (RH & other issues)
- Build coalitions that foster participation and real engagement



Thank You!

Questions??