

**SPR 15TH ANNUAL MEETING
PRECONFERENCE WORKSHOP #4
May 29, 2007
8:30 AM – 5:00 PM**

Title	Using Tested Programs in the Real World—Strategies and Tools to Promote Implementation Fidelity
Organizer	Kevin Haggerty, MSW, Social Development Research Group, University of Washington
Presenters	Sharon Mihalic, M.A., Center for the Study and Prevention of Research, University of Colorado William B. Hansen, PhD, President, Tanglewood Research Abigail A. Fagan, PhD, Social Development Research Group, University of Washington
Description	As SPR promotes the broad dissemination of tested and effective programs in real world settings, implementing programs with fidelity becomes even more important. During program replications, high-fidelity implementation helps increase the likelihood of desired participant outcomes, given evidence that closer adherence to core components can result in stronger participant outcomes, and that some programs work only when implemented with a high degree of fidelity (Abbott et al., 1998; Botvin, Mihalic, & Grotspeter, 1998; Henggeler, Melton, Brondino, Scherer, & Hanley, 1997; Kam, Greenberg, & Walls, 2003; Mihalic, 2004; Olweus, Limber, & Mihalic, 1999; Spoth, Gyll, Trudeau, & Goldberg-Lillehoj, 2002). Conversely, implementation failure results in wasted financial and human prevention resources and a reduced likelihood that community efforts will result in desired changes in participants' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors.
Objectives	This workshop is designed to build knowledge, skills and tools for moving tested and effective programs to real world application while replicating their original study design. The workshop targets program developers and prevention researchers, with the goals of ensuring that participants will: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Understand the importance of achieving implementation fidelity of tested programs.2. Agree upon common elements of implementation fidelity and discuss ways of measuring these elements.3. Discuss the pros and cons of when and how to adapt programs to the local situation.4. Identify general models, tools and strategies that promote implementation fidelity.5. Share their own tools for promoting implementation fidelity of specific programs and strategies for overcoming replication challenges.

Methods

The workshop will be interactive with an opportunity for discussion and sharing of tools for promoting implementation fidelity.

Presenters

Sharon Mihalic, M.A., has been a researcher at the University of Colorado for 17 years. She has helped to facilitate all facets of work involved in conducting a major longitudinal, national sample to collect data on juvenile delinquency. Research, using this survey, includes articles in the areas of marital violence, drug use, and the effects of adolescent employment on delinquency.

During the last ten years, her work at the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at the University has been as the Director and Co-Principal Investigator of the Blueprints for Violence Prevention Initiative. She has examined the evaluations of numerous violence prevention programs and has had major input into the selection of the Blueprints programs. She is a co-author or contributing author on the twelve Blueprints books, as well as the volume editor of each book, and the co-editor of the Blueprints series. She has provided the direction and management for the Blueprints dissemination projects funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to replicate the Blueprints programs in multiple sites nationwide. She is also the Co-PI on a new project funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to replicate and evaluate two of the Blueprints promising programs. Research from the Blueprints initiative includes five articles, two bulletins, and a monograph on the factors associated with implementation success.

William B. Hansen, PhD, has been President of Tanglewood Research since 1993. He received an honors bachelor of arts degree from the University of Utah in 1974, a master of science degree in 1977, and a Ph.D. in 1978 in social psychology, both from the University of Houston. He has served on the faculty at UCLA (1978-1984), the University of Southern California (1980-1989) and Bowman Gray School of Medicine (1989-1996).

He is a widely recognized expert in alcohol and drug prevention. He has written numerous curricula for school and community-based prevention, including Project SMART, Project STAR, and All Stars. He has authored over 80 articles in scientific journals on research and evaluation methods, prevention theory, and strategies for successful prevention practice. The goal of his research has been to identify and evaluate evidence-based approaches to prevention that can achieve reductions in the onset of use and be applied in everyday settings.

From 1985 through 1993 he was the principal investigator of the Adolescent Alcohol Prevention Trial. This project tested norm setting and refusal skills strategies for preventing the onset of alcohol use and the development of alcohol problems among young adolescents. Between 1990 and 1996 he was principal investigator of the Effective School-based Substance Abuse Prevention project (funded by NIDA) that examined the basis of common alcohol and drug abuse education efforts and identified characteristics of educational efforts that hold

true empirical promise for prevention. Since 1994, Dr. Hansen has been the principal investigator on over ten SBIR grants designed to translate knowledge about prevention into practice.

Abigail A. Fagan received her PhD in Sociology from the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2001. While there, she utilized longitudinal data from the National Youth Survey (a representative sample of youth from across the United States) to examine the relationship between being victimized as an adolescent and becoming involved in crime as an adult. She also worked on the Blueprints for Violence Prevention Initiative, at the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, to identify effective violence and drug prevention programs, as well as work with middle and junior high schools to successfully implement the Life Skills Training drug prevention curriculum.

She worked as a researcher at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia, investigating risk factors for adolescent delinquency using two longitudinal studies of juveniles. She is currently an Intervention Specialist at the Social Development Research Group, at the University of Washington. As part of a research project examining the effectiveness of the Communities that Care program, she works directly with communities, to help assess their levels of youth substance use and delinquency and to select and implement prevention programs that address these needs.

References

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