Post-Conference Workshop II (two half-days)

Dates:  Wednesday, August 4 and Thursday, August 5, 2021

Time:  12:00 pm – 4:00 pm Eastern

Translating Prevention Science into Action: A Roadmap to Successful Prevention Researcher-State Agency-Community Collaborations (To register select: Translating)

Organizer and Presenter:
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Washington State University

Presenters:
Louise Parker, PhD
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Washington State University

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Postdoctoral Fellow, IMPACT Research Lab
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Violence and Injury Prevention — Mental Health Promotion Branch
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Jochebed Gayles, PhD
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Evaluation Analyst, Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center  
Pennsylvania State University

Roger Spaw  
Evidence-Based Practices Project Manager  
Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center  
Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center  
Pennsylvania State University

Geoff Kolchin  
Program Manager  
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention  
Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency

Description:

The Society for Prevention Research is “dedicated to advancing scientific investigation on the etiology and prevention of social, physical and mental health, and academic problems and on the translation of that information to promote health and well-being” [emphasis added].” This call for translating science into action comes not only from prevention researchers, but also from representatives from those public systems – especially at the state level – whose day-to-day job it is to effectively use taxpayer dollars to provide services that improve youth, family, and community health and well-being. Given our common goals, it only makes sense for prevention researchers, state agency leaders, and community providers to work together to bring science to bear on our most pressing public health problems. The value of these collaborations has been highlighted in two recent SPR Mapping Advances in Prevention Science Task Forces (Fagan et al., 2019; Leadbeater, 2018). Fortunately, numerous models/frameworks have recently emerged to help identify and guide the structural and procedural approaches to successful, mutually beneficial, research-practice-policy partnerships. However, many of these models/frameworks are narrowly focused within specific systems (e.g., education, child welfare), rather than designed to generalize across systems. Because prevention is housed within and across multiple public systems, this workshop aims to distill from the academic literature and through three case study examples across three states, the common elements needed to lay the groundwork for creating and maintaining successful prevention researcher-state agency-community collaborations.


Learning Objectives:

This workshop will bring together prevention researchers, state agency leaders, and community providers to learn with and from one another by building their capacity to engage in successful collaborations. Specifically, participants will:
1) Improve knowledge of existing research-practice-policy collaboration models/frameworks;
2) Learn from real-world examples of successful collaborations;
3) Assess their own readiness to initiate and maintain successful collaborations; and
4) Learn how to navigate common ethical issues related to implementing and evaluating evidence-based prevention programs.

**Target Audience:** Researchers, state agency leaders, and community providers at all levels of professional development who are interested in learning how to translate prevention science into meaningful action.

**Materials to be Provided to Attendees (electronic & paper copies):**
- Workshop slides
- Reading list of cited literature
- Activity worksheets
- Supplementary resource list with hyperlinks

**Presenters:**

**Brittany Cooper, PhD** is an Associated Professor in the Department of Human Development and the Director of the Prevention Science Graduate Program at Washington State University. Dr. Cooper has collaborated with federal, state, and local stakeholders in Washington State and Pennsylvania on how best to support the high quality implementation and sustainability of evidence-based substance use prevention programs in real-world settings for the past nine years. She is an active member of the Washington State Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery’s (DBHR) Prevention Research Subcommittee. As a part of this work, she has consulted with DBHR in the development of their lists of effective youth marijuana and opioid misuse prevention programs, been a co-investigator on the statewide evaluation of the coalition-based model for youth substance use prevention, and collaborated with state and tribal partners to identify effective substance use prevention programs for tribal communities. Dr. Cooper was a recent member of the SPR MAPS IV Task Force on scaling-up evidence-based interventions, and conducts research aimed at identifying factors necessary for the successful scale-up, implementation, and sustainability of preventive interventions in real-world contexts, and risk and protective factors for youth substance use and misuse.

**Louise Parker, PhD** is a Professor in the Department of Human Development at Washington State University, and a member of the Graduate Faculty for the institution’s Prevention Science Ph.D. program. Her primary academic appointment is in extension/outreach programming that connects community-based faculty with expertise in prevention program development and delivery with campus-based prevention researchers from a variety of disciplines. In her extension role, she has created integrated teams of interdisciplinary researchers, community practitioners, and agency partners for three federally funded RCTs focused on the development of family interventions to prevent childhood obesity. Dr. Parker is also the developer of a cultural competency training program called Navigating Difference that promotes skill development at both individual and organizational levels. She has used this expertise to inform the successful recruitment and retention of culturally diverse families in community-based prevention and to lead cultural adaptation processes for evidence-based programs. In the latter work, her research has focused on the role of utilizing qualitative data from youth and parent participants in community prevention programs to directly inform adaptations in both program content
and processes. Dr. Parker’s experience with research-practice collaborations focused on real world prevention research and program implementation offers insight on effective and inclusive team structures and communication systems.

**Gitanjali Shrestha, PhD** is the lead analyst for the evaluation of a statewide initiative in Washington State to prevent adolescent substance use. In her role, Dr. Shrestha collaborates with state agency partners to develop evaluation questions, identify data sources, discuss implications of findings, and create materials to disseminate the findings. In the past, Dr. Shrestha has jointly presented evaluation findings with state agency partners at national and regional conferences.

**Sarah Mariani, CPP** is the Section Manager for the Substance Use Disorder Prevention and Mental Health Promotion for the Division of Behavior Health and Recovery at the Washington State Health Care Authority. In this role, she has served as the National Prevention Network (NPN) representative for Washington State and is currently the NPN President. Ms. Mariani has worked in prevention for over eighteen years including coalition-building, strategic planning, and training. Since she began working for the state of Washington in 2006, she has contributed to the development of multiple substance abuse prevention and mental health promotion initiatives for the state, and has collaborated with prevention researchers at University of Washington and Washington State University to inform these initiatives. Currently, she is co-chair for the State Prevention Enhancement Policy Consortium that oversees the five-year strategic plan for substance use disorders prevention and mental health promotion.

**Erin Kelly, DrPH, MA** is the Director of Strategy and Operations and a Research Associate at the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at the University of Colorado Boulder. For the past decade, Dr. Kelly has worked in partnership with international, federal, state, and local stakeholders on how to engage community, use data, and implement and monitor effective programs, practices, and policies in local contexts. She has public health research and practice experience, specializing in research on the social determinants of health, and creating policy, systems, and environmental changes to improve equitable youth and adult outcomes. She is currently a co-investigator on the statewide evaluation of and technical assistance for the implementation of the Communities That Care (CTC) prevention system in 47 Colorado communities. Dr. Kelly holds a doctorate in public health from the Colorado School of Public Health at the University of Colorado, and a masters in anthropology from the University of Colorado Denver.

**Marc Morgan** is the Community That Cares Manager for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. In this role, he provides strategic oversight, direction, and execution of substance abuse prevention grants to local communities across Colorado. This includes responsibility for key prevention program support, including: fidelity to the Communities That Care model, effective analysis of and implementation support for community-level primary prevention strategies, professional expertise in addressing substance abuse prevention using a risk and protective factor approach, expertise in applying prevention strategies to improve health equity, and integration of program evaluation across funded sites. Previously, he served as Director of Programs for Denver Kids Inc., and Managing Director of Program, Service, Operations and Recruitment for City Year Denver and the National Director of Secondary School Initiatives at City Year Headquarters. Marc is currently a member of the National Practitioner Advisory Group with the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL). He received his B.A. in sociology, B.S. in administration of justice, and minor in information systems and statistical analysis from Penn State University.
Jochebed Gayles, PhD is an Assistant Research Professor in the Prevention Research Center (PRC) and the Evaluation Analyst at the Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center, a project of the PRC, in the College of Health and Human Development at the Pennsylvania State University. Over the past five years, Dr. Gayles has worked with state and local decision-makers and technical assistance providers to understand and evaluate the effectiveness of practices and policies focused on improving organizational capacities, training the behavioral health workforce, and sustaining of evidence-based program implementation. Dr. Gayles is a member of the National Prevention Science Coalition, and co-leads the Coalition Research Group, a cross-university collaborative group of researchers and technical assistance providers who work with and research community prevention systems in real-world contexts. Recently, Dr. Gayles was accepted into the 2019-2020 cohort of the Leaders in Equitable Evaluation and Diversity Scholars program originally funded by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Through this opportunity, she aims to bring a culturally responsive and equitable evaluation lens to her work in understanding community prevention systems, reducing gaps in the behavioral health workforce and the dissemination and implementation of evidence-based prevention approaches.

Roger Spaw, B.A., is the Evidence Based Practices (EBP) Project Manager at the Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Support Center, a project of the Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center at Penn State. He oversees the evidence-based prevention programming activities of the EPISCenter’s implementation specialists and systems change specialists throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Before taking on a management role at EPIS, Roger was a data manager, making project data available to its multiple constituent audiences in usable and actionable formats and a prevention coordinator who provided technical assistance on and supported the use of evidence-based programs and practices in communities across the state. He has worked in human services for nearly 30 years. His prior work experience includes counseling adolescents and adults in MH/MR residential facilities and providing support as a county mobile crisis worker. He has worked for non-profit organizations serving youth and families, both as a program director for a street outreach and ATOD prevention program, and as an Outcomes and Information Technology Specialist. His oversight of agencies’ community-based prevention programs required interactions and coordination with state and local human service agencies, and criminal justice and education professionals. He served as a key leader on two and as board chairman on one Communities That Care prevention board.

Geoff Kolchin is a Program Manager with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) at the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD). He oversees the office’s Prevention efforts including the proliferation of evidence-based programs in the Commonwealth and the support for Communities That Care (CTC) sites. He also serves as the Project Leader for the Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS). He is lead staff for PCCD’s Cross-System Prevention Workgroup, which is charged with coordinating overarching prevention efforts in the Commonwealth under the Governor’s “go Time” Initiative. He has overseen the management of hundreds of grants, ensuring projects fulfilled the purpose for which they were funded and assisting grantees in meeting their deliverables. Mr. Kolchin received his Masters of Science in Public Policy Analysis from the University of Rochester and his Bachelor of Arts in Government from Lehigh University. He has served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for over 22 years.

Workshop Outline:
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<th>Day One: Time</th>
<th>Topic &amp; Objective</th>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
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| 12:00-12:30  | *Welcome & Introductions*  
We will begin with an activity designed to a) get to know the workshop participants, and b) engage them in discussion about their individual goals for today's workshop. | Brittany Cooper (WSU) |
| 12:30-1:45   | *Overview of Research-Practice-Policy Frameworks/Models*  
This overview session will provide background on existing research-practice-policy frameworks. Facilitated small-group discussions will ask participants to identify similarities and differences across frameworks/models. This will set the stage for the case studies presented next. | Brittany Cooper  
Louise Parker (WSU) |
| 1:45-4:00    | *State Case Study Presentations & Debrief*  
Each prevention researcher-state agency partner pair will present a 20-minute talk that includes a brief background on a successful research-practice project and what they believe lead to its success. The final 30 minutes will be used to facilitate a mapping activity where participants identify common elements across the case studies and map them on to one or more of the existing research-practice-policy frameworks/models presented earlier. | Washington: Gitanjali Shrestha (WSU) & Sarah Mariani (Division of Behavioral Health & Recovery)  
Colorado: Erin Kelly (UC) & Marc Morgan (Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment)  
Pennsylvania: Joche Gayles, Roger Spaw (Penn State) & Geoff Kolchin (Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency) |

**Day Two:**

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| 12:00-1:30  | *Navigating Ethical Issues & Assuring Cultural Responsiveness*  
First, we will provide an overview of the 7 common activities and 10 value statements outlined in the *Ethical Challenges in Promoting the Implementation of Preventive Interventions* article from the SPR Ethics Taskforce (Leadbeater et al., 2018). Facilitated small-group discussions will ask participants to review example scenarios relevant to prevention researcher- | Joche Gayles (Penn State)  
Louise Parker (WSU) |
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| Day One:   | **state agency-community collaborations and determine how the value statements can guide decision-making.**  
            | Second, we will dive deeper into ethical issues associated with:  
            | a) the recruitment and continued engagement of diverse partners in these collaborations, and b) culturally responsive and equitable evaluation. |                                      |
|           | 1:30 – 3:30 **Research-Practice-Policy Toolkit & Planning Activity**  
            | We will review several tools (e.g., readiness assessment) for prevention scientists, state agency, and community partners to use for successfully initiating and maintaining these collaborations. We will also facilitate an activity where participants will develop a plan for how to use the information provided today to enhance their existing collaborations or develop new ones. | Brittany Cooper  
            |                                                      | Gitanjali Shrestha (WSU)                      |
|           | 3:30 – 4:00 **End of Day Reflection & Closing**  
            | We will end the session with a brief activity designed to encourage participants to reflect on what they have learned and how they will turn these ideas into action in their own work. We will also ask participants to complete a feedback survey following this activity. | Louise Parker (WSU)                       |