

Safe Schools/Healthy Students National Cross-Site Evaluation

Evaluation Meeting

January 29-30, 2009

The National Evaluation Team (NET)

- MANILA Consulting Group, Inc.
- RMC Research Corporation
- Battelle Centers for Public Health Research and Evaluation

Data Collection Overview

- Site Visits
- Surveys
 - Project-Level Survey, School-Level Survey, School Climate Survey
- Telephone Interviews
 - Project Director Interview, Group Telephone Interviews
- GPRA Measures

1-Day Site Visit

(Year 1)

- Two-person team meets with key managers and stakeholders identified by the project director in February/March
- Collect/clarify information regarding baseline conditions, program priorities, planned activities, and evaluation plan
- Discuss future plans

Online Surveys

(Annual)

Project-Level Survey

- Gather information about new/planned policies, programs, and operations related to the SS/HS program elements
- Distributed by NET to project director or designee in late winter/early spring
- 30-45 minutes to complete

Online Surveys (Annual)

(cont'd.)

School-Level Survey

- Gather information about the nature and level of each school's involvement in planning, implementing, and supporting policies, programs, and activities related to the SS/HS program elements
- Distributed by the NET to school coordinator or project director designee at all schools targeted by the grant in late winter/early spring
- 30-45 minutes to complete

Online Surveys (Annual)

(cont'd.)

School Climate Survey

- Gather information about perceived safety, learning environment, policies, services, and ATOD problems at each school
- Distributed by PD or designee to sample of teachers and administrative staff at schools targeted by the grant (sites may opt to conduct a census)
- 7-8 minutes to complete

Telephone Interviews: Project Director (Annual)

- Individual telephone interview with project director conducted each summer
- Addresses partner contributions to planning and implementation activities

Telephone Interviews: Group

(Years 2, 3, & 4)

- Similar to Year 1 site visit
- Group interviews with project director, local evaluator, and key managers and stakeholders conducted in the summer
- Update information regarding activities, planning and implementation processes, sustainability, and system changes

Partnership Inventory

(Years 2, 3, & 4)

- Completed by project director and key managers and stakeholders in the summer
- Addresses contributions to planning and implementing activities
- Approximately 5 - 10 minutes to complete

Evaluation Questions

Do SS/HS grants

- Develop/enhance collaborative systems?
- Reduce frequency of violent incidents in schools?
- Reduce rates of ATOD use?
- Improve access to mental health services?
- Improve school climate?

Conceptual Framework

Existing Conditions and Resources (Pre-Grant Environment)

- Collaborative Mechanism
 - History
 - Composition
 - Structure
 - Barriers to collaboration
- Identified Target Populations
- System Resources
 - Pre-grant program and service investments
 - Funding

SS/HS Activities

- Partnership Functioning
 - Assess needs
 - Search for best practice solutions
 - Analyze implementation requirements
 - Select, implements, and support best practice programs and services
 - Monitor and track performance
 - Recommend policy changes
 - Plan future activities
- School Involvement in Decisionmaking
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Leadership
- Project Advocacy

Near-Term Outcomes

- Comprehensive Policies
 - Scope of policies
 - Diffusion to schools
- Implementation of Enhanced Services
- Improved Coordination
 - Service integration activities being implemented
 - Partner ratings of effectiveness
 - Extent of resource pooling and sharing
- School-level Organizational Change

Long-Term Outcomes

- Sustainability
- Specific Elements
 - Prevention of violence
 - Prevention of substance abuse
 - Improved access to mental health services
 - Improved attendance
- Improved School Climate

SS/HS Activities



Partnership Activities

The NET is collecting data to

- Examine the activities underway and key partner involvement related to -
 - Planning
 - Implementation
 - Monitoring/tracking performance
 - Sustainability
- Assess the influence on these activities of the -
 - Partnership attributes
 - Operating environment

Near-Term Outcomes

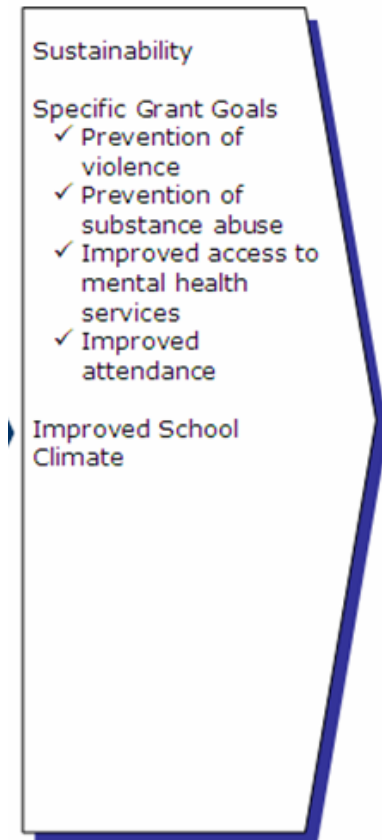


The NET is collecting data to:

- Examine the near-term outcomes related to -
 - Number of planned and implemented activities
 - Use of evidence-based programs and practices
 - Number and type of coordination activities
- Assess the influence on these near-term outcomes of the -
 - Partnership activities
 - Partnership attributes
 - Operating environment

Long-Term Outcomes

Long-Term Outcomes



The NET is collecting data to -

- Examine the impact of the grant on important long-term goals, specifically -
 - Sustainability of programs and activities and the partnership
 - Improvements in safety, substance use, violence, and mental health services
 - Overall school climate
- Assess the influence on these outcomes of the -
 - Near-term outcomes
 - Partnership activities
 - Partnership attributes
 - Operating environment

Using GPRA Data for Long-Term Outcomes

- GPRA data are reported in all annual reports and the final performance report
- The NET follows up on these reports with GPRA templates
- Enables the NET to measure change and perform additional analyses such as:
 - Differences by grade and school type
 - Comparisons to national and State trends

2008 GPRA Measures

- Grantees are required to collect and report information annually on six measures.
- Grantees are expected to conduct two data collections in Year 1: baseline (pre-implementation) and Year 1 actual performance data.
- Grantees are asked to provide student-level data for each measure.

School Climate Survey

- NET will focus on four school types:
 - Elementary, Middle, High, Alternative
- Per OMB's recommendation to reduce burden, the NET will sample school staff
- Number of schools within each type determines the number of staff who are asked to complete the survey

School Climate Survey (cont'd.)

- Each site has its own instruction sheet based on information provided to the NET
- PD compiles alphabetical list of staff for each targeted school
- NET indicates which number from the list should complete the survey (e.g., every 4th staff member, every 10th staff member)

Administering & Tracking

- School-specific login and password information sent to PD via e-mail
- PD or designee sends information to selected staff at each school
- PD tracks response rates by school
- PD can view real-time district results
- Grantees interested in using the SCS for their local evaluation should contact the NET