

# Safe Schools/Healthy Students

Introduction to the National Evaluation

# 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

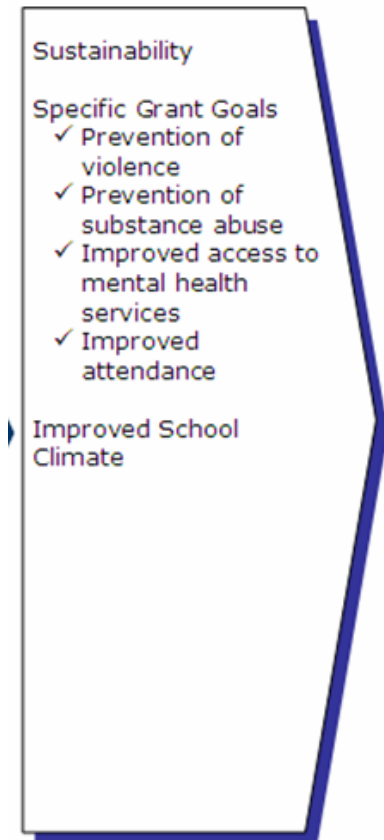


The NET is collecting data to:

- 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 in grades and school type
  - Comparisons to national and State trends