Integrating Health Equity into Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention: Key Concepts and Components of Strategies and Approaches

Monday, September 25, 2023
11:00 AM PT/2:00 PM ET

prevent connect
A ValorUS PROJECT
Meet the PreventConnect Team

Ashleigh Klein-Jimenez
Director of Prevention
she/her/hers

Janae Sargent
Project Coordinator
she/they
Listen to our podcast!

The Grooming Myth
Fighting Anti-LGBTQ+ Rhetoric

Available on Spotify, Google Podcasts, YouTube
Health Equity in Practice
Foundations for Sexual Violence Prevention Pt. 5

How to build cross-movement partnerships to advance Health Equity

September 26 | 11 a.m. PST/ 2 p.m. EST

prevent
connect
A ValorUS PROJECT

nsvrc
National Sexual Violence Resource Center
How to use Zoom

- Text chat
- PowerPoint Slides
- Polling Questions
- Phone
- Closed Captioning
- Web Conference Guidelines
Have you attended a PreventConnect Web Conference before?  
Polling Question
PreventConnect

- Domestic violence/intimate partner violence
- Sexual violence
- Violence across the lifespan, including child sexual abuse
- Prevent before violence starts
- Connect to other forms of violence and oppression
- Connect to other prevention practitioners
Integrating Health Equity into Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention: Key Concepts and Components of Strategies and Approaches

Monday, September 25, 2023
11:00 AM PT/2:00 PM ET

PreventConnect is a national project of ValorUS sponsored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The views and information provided in this web conference do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. government, CDC or VALOR.
Objectives

● Gain a deeper understanding of addressing health equity through violence prevention
● Translate concepts of health equity into on-the-ground program development and implementation
● Identify cross-cutting strategies and partnerships to address social determinants of health and prevent violence in local communities
HEALTH EQUITY APPROACHES TO PREVENTING SEXUAL AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE:
A 3-PART SERIES
Health Equity in Practice
Foundations for Sexual Violence Prevention
A 5-Part Web Conference Series

Health equity means that “everyone has a fair and just opportunity to attain their highest level of health.”

https://www.cdc.gov/healthequity/whatis/index.html

Health Equity requires:

- Addressing historical and current injustices
- Overcoming economic, social, & other obstacles to health
- Eliminating preventable disparities

https://www.cdc.gov/healthequity/whatis/index.html
A Health Equity Approach to Violence Prevention

Create accessible access to power

To improve the structural and social conditions where people live, learn, work, play, etc.

To eliminate sexual and intimate partner violence in communities
There is no one way to increase health equity.
One place to start is examining your strategy or approach...

- Does it prioritize the people with the most burden and need?
- Does it address the conditions where people live, learn, work, and play?
- Does it create a new narrative about violence prevention?
- Does it involve sustainable community solutions?
How does your prevention approach/strategy prioritize those with the most burden and need?

Text Chat Question
Meet Today’s Guest Speakers

Belinda Flores
(she/her/hers)
Kansas Department of Health & Environment

Christina Holt
(she/her/hers)
University of Kansas Center for Community Health & Development

Gabby Boyle
(they/them)
Sexual Trauma and Abuse Care Center
The Sexual Trauma & Abuse CARE CENTER
University of Kansas Center for Community Health and Development

Supporting community health and development through...

- participatory *research and evaluation*
- *teaching and training*
- technical support and *capacity building*
Kansas Department of Health and Environment

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment works to protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans.
We must understand and address the factors that put people at risk for or protect them from violence.

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2023
Risk Factors for Sexual Violence Perpetration

**Community**
- Poverty
- Lack of employment opportunities
- Lack of institutional support from police and judicial system
- General tolerance of sexual violence within the community
- Weak community sanctions against sexual violence perpetrators

**Societal**
- Societal norms that support sexual violence
- Societal norms that support male superiority and sexual entitlement
- Societal norms that maintain women’s inferiority and sexual submissiveness
- Weak laws and policies related to sexual violence and gender equity
- High levels of crime and other forms of violence

*Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2023*
Moving Upstream
Health equity for all: A fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible for everyone.

That health inequities are **conditions that are produced by the social, political, and economic factors** at play in societal structures.

Health equity is **an ethical and human rights principle**

Equal distribution may not eliminate disparities.
Social Determinants of Health

- Education Access and Quality
- Health Care Access and Quality
- Economic Stability
- Neighborhood and Built Environment
- Social and Community Context
What conditions or SDOH is your prevention work addressing?

Polling Question
Purpose of This Plan

In 2011, the Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence (KCSDV), the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and the Kansas Sexual and Domestic Violence Primary Prevention Advisory Committee presented Reweaving Our Social Fabric: A Plan for the Primary Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence in Kansas. In March of 2019, the Kansas Sexual and Domestic Violence Primary Prevention Advisory Committee was called together to review progress made since 2011 and update the State Plan. We are pleased to provide this updated Reweaving the Social Fabric: A Plan for the Primary Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence in Kansas, 2019-2024.

This Plan is the result of the efforts of many dedicated and talented people across Kansas who are committed to preventing sexual and domestic violence and addressing risk factors associated with sexual and domestic violence perpetration and victimization, while building up the protective factors for sexual and domestic violence.

This Plan offers our state and communities a path forward in efforts to prevent sexual and domestic violence by providing a framework based on current best practices, data, evaluation, and participatory action research findings from around the state. Because the causes and supports for sexual and domestic violence are deeply embedded within our society, preventing it will require participation at all levels of society: individual change, change in the way we relate to one another, change in our community structures and change in our social norms.

Vision
All people in Kansas will have safe and healthy lives and communities free of sexual and domestic violence.

Mission
To prevent and end sexual and domestic violence through education, collaboration, and action for all people and communities throughout Kansas.
Goal 1: Decrease social norms that lead to oppression, including male superiority and sexual entitlement
Goal 2: Increase equity for people who experience gender-based oppression
Goal 3: Decrease unequal burden of risk factors for sexual and domestic violence
Goal 4: Increase efforts at the individual, relationship, community, and societal levels to prevent sexual and domestic violence before it occurs.
Goal 5: Increase the capacity to monitor, evaluate, and improve primary prevention in a data-driven and evidence-based manner.
Goal 6: Obtain resources to address prevention of sexual and domestic violence
CDC’s Social Ecological Model

- Individual
- Relationship
- Community
- Societal
FRAMEWORK for COLLABORATIVE ACTION for IMPROVING HEALTH & DEVELOPMENT

A. Assessing, Prioritizing & Planning
B. Implementing Targeted Action
C. Changing Community Conditions & Systems
D. Achieving Widespread Change in Behavior & Risk Factors
E. Improving Population Health & Development
Asking questions of our initiative

Are there associated improvements in population-level outcomes?

Did those most affected participate in planning and implementation?

Are there changes in communities and systems?

What factors are associated with increased rates of change?

How are community and systems changes contributing to changes in behavior and risk factors?

http://communityhealth.ku.edu | Copyright © 2023 | The University of Kansas
Kansas RPE Grantee Communities
Community health worker Ifrah Farah and Birgit Lemke make phone calls for Somali refugees Koos Husen (in yellow) and Asi Muhamud (in red) at LiveWell Finney County Neighborhood Learning Center in Garden City, Kansas. LiveWell helps refugees and immigrants with health care, housing, and job applications and offers classes in English, nutrition and other life skills. Photo courtesy of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. (c) Annabel Clark 2019 and (c) Josh Kohanek 2019.

Sister Janice Thomas and Tina Kinney attend the Community Services Council meeting at the Finney County Extension Office in Garden City, Kansas. The monthly meetings bring together community groups to share updates. The meetings are chaired by Tina Kinney of Kansas Workforce, which connects local employers to a motivated workforce having skills to obtain and maintain meaningful employment. Photo courtesy of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (c) Annabel Clark 2019 and (c) Josh Kohanek 2019.
Lawrence, Kansas Housing Inequity

• Slightly over 50% of homes are renter-occupied
• Median rent is $1,105 for 2-bedroom
• 56% of renters are cost burdened (paying 1/3 or more of their income towards rent)
Lawrence, Kansas Housing Inequity

• In September 2021, ~800 active Housing Choice Voucher users with a wait list of over 400 people at 1.5-2 years
• From April 2021-August 2022, over 1050 households received rental assistance
Lawrence, Kansas Housing Inequity

• Emergency sheltering needs exceed available services

• Impact vs effort—what is going to make the most impact vs what can we realistically achieve
Source of income protection precedents

• Adding source of income to protected classes under a city's discrimination code means that landlords cannot deny someone tenancy on the basis of how they're paying rent.

• 20 states and over 100 municipalities have passed source of income protections, with the oldest protections being created in Massachusetts in 1971. However, only 1 in 3 voucher users are protected by SOI protections.

• Recommended as a strategy to increase housing mobility and voucher acceptance by HUD, ABA, and many housing advocacy groups.
Source of income protections outcomes

• Time spent by voucher holders waiting for housing decrease 14% in communities with these protections.

• There is no evidence of a relationship between source of income protections and rising rents.

• In communities without SOI protections, 77% of prospective HCV tenants were rejected by landlords. This number drops to 33% in communities with SOI protections.

• Communities with SOI protections were less racially segregated

• Housing mobility outcomes improved for elderly HCV recipients and those with large families
Other Strategies

• SafeBar Alliance curriculum revised to include social norms and power dynamics
• Tenant Experience Survey launched
• Materially supporting community organizers when possible
What environmental conditions, policies, programs, or practices might your community address to reduce inequities?

Text Chat Question
Johnson County, Kansas
Wyandotte, Kansas

MOCSA
Metropolitan Organization to Counter Sexual Assault

CHIP

Wyandotte County Sexual Assault Prevention Coalition

Coordinates with residents, community organizations, and Unified Government (UG) agencies to implement Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies, through trauma-informed and equity-based approaches.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

GOALS
- Increase the perception of community connectedness by Wyandotte County youth from 56.5% to 59.6%.
- Increase resident satisfaction with law enforcement, first responders, & the judicial system from 3.6 to 3.9 out of 5 on the annual WyCo resident satisfaction survey.

STRATEGIES
- Youth Engagement
  - Support youth-led community advisory boards to engage youth in community development and prevention strategies.
- Community & Justice Systems Relations
  - Evaluate and improve communication and relations between community and the justice system.
- Norms Change
  - Develop a positive norms change campaign to acknowledge gun violence and sexual violence among youth in Wyandotte County.

STRATEGIES

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design:
- Coordinate efforts among residents, community organizations, and Unified Government (UG) agencies to implement Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies, through trauma-informed and equity-based approaches.
- Reduce and prevent violence by fostering community connectedness through place-based strategies to create inclusive, safe, and beautiful public spaces.
Carrying forward the work

What next steps do you envision?
Thank you!

We welcome you to reach out with questions.

**Belinda Flores**, LMSW, KDHE Program Manager, Sexual Violence Prevention and Education; belinda.flores@ks.gov

**Christina Holt**, MA, University of Kansas; cholt@ku.edu

**Gabby Boyle**, Sexual Trauma & Abuse Care Center; gabby@stacarecenter.org