

whole community prevention planning

Early Intervention Health Systems

In FCD's experience, the best approach for responding to students suspected of and/or known to be using is an early intervention that holds them accountable and prevents further risk. This approach involves:

- A non-disciplinary intervention process offering early support to students who are not known to have broken the school's discipline code, with the option to engage a health services response, and
- A firm disciplinary response that may also be engaged concurrent with a health services response.

Balancing health and discipline systems is an art. While early intervention procedures are separate from the disciplinary system, students engaged through early intervention are not immune from consequences. When balanced with a clear, consistent and strong disciplinary system, a non-disciplinary early intervention approach supports a healthy community and reduces the progression of student substance abuse.

The establishment of an early intervention health system will help prevent student problems with alcohol and other drugs, decrease enabling of risky behaviors, and equip schools to engage students, families and staff in revealing and strengthening their own communities' health.

FCD trains schools and communities to develop non-disciplinary intervention processes, balanced with clear and consistent disciplinary responses. We provide step-by-step guidance toward the development, implementation and evaluation of an early intervention health system (EIHS), in many schools guided by an early intervention team (EIT) for dealing with student substance use concerns. Through in-depth consultation about policies, procedures and practices for the successful execution of both non-disciplinary and disciplinary approaches to confronting student substance use, FCD provides school communities with the capacity to build an effective prevention continuum.

If you are interested in learning more about FCD's early intervention health systems, please contact us.

We work with virtually any scheduling structure, and can adapt our EIHS offerings to fit an individual school's needs.

Comprehensive Prevention Planning

FCD's Comprehensive Prevention Planning (CPP) is a collaborative process – involving faculty, administrators, health care staff, parents, students and trustees – that promotes the health and welfare of young people by effectively meeting strategic prevention goals and objectives that:

- reduce risk factors that contribute to unhealthy behaviors
- identify and intervene on unhealthy behaviors, and
- nurture and strengthen protective factors that contribute to health and well-being.

FCD is helping many schools build and implement comprehensive substance abuse prevention plans. We came to this work out of the growing recognition that, while many schools have an assortment of activities and policies for addressing student substance abuse, few have a cohesive, proactive plan that encompasses the many elements that go into creating a healthy school climate. The absence of a broad-based prevention plan can lead to confusion, inconsistency, frustration and, ultimately, higher levels of substance abuse.

Since no two schools are alike, an effective prevention plan must reflect each school's values and mission. This requires a great deal of introspection, communication and commitment on the part of the school, as well as objective guidance from FCD Prevention Specialists trained to:

- evaluate prevention programs, policies and procedures
- assess and prioritize needs
- recommend strategies and structures to nurture and maintain the health of the community
- oversee and review the implementation of the plan.

Throughout the Comprehensive Prevention Planning process, school communities can be guided by FCD in their efforts to:

- develop a successful, sustainable prevention planning team
- create community-wide statements of belief and purpose
- evolve specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound CPP goals and objectives
- thoughtfully plan, implement and evaluate community-tailored prevention initiatives
- use the prevention planning “wheel,” FCD’s visual tool for guiding CPP discussions with school communities, to monitor and evaluate CPP goals and objectives over time.

If you are interested in learning more about FCD’s Comprehensive Prevention Planning, please contact us.

We work with virtually any scheduling structure, and can adapt our offerings to fit an individual school’s needs.

