

# Strategic Prevention Framework & Native Youth



# SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework



# Cultural Considerations in Prevention

“Nothing about Us without Us”



# Engaging Tribal Youth through the SPF: Assessment

- Create a safe and welcoming space
- Avoid technical jargon
- Focus first on youth assets, and gifts, then needs and issues
- Use focus groups or informal interviewing- Talking Circles
- Ask the youth about most pressing challenges



# Engaging Tribal Youth through the SPF: Assessment

- Nature and extent of the issue
- Protective and Risk Factors
- Existing resources and readiness
- Survey the landscape ( Data)



# Engaging Youth through the SPF: : Capacity Building

- **Resource + Readiness = Capacity**
- Recognize there is a need to create change
- Need for Action
- Offer leadership training
- Ensure they are treated as knowledgeable stakeholders in the community
- Provide opportunities strengthen their relationships with the adults on the team
- Recognize youth as valuable resources in creating relationships with the community

# Engaging Youth through the SPF: Planning

- Encourage youth to help identify and prioritize risk and protective factors.
- Develop a culturally appropriate logic model
- Offer the youth the lead in selecting culturally appropriate activities and interventions.



# Engaging Youth through the SPF: Implementation

- Youth need to take the lead in designing, selecting, and taking part in the implementation of any youth focused action plan.
- Youth need to be given the parameters of their anticipated leadership responsibilities.
- Ensure a good match of adult leaders and youth leaders.
- Mentorships based on the “Good Relative” concept

# Engaging Youth through the SPF: Evaluation

Train youth how to:

- facilitate “talking circles” to help assess and evaluate the impact of program activities.
- help conduct surveys and interviews
- share their observations, analysis, conclusions, and recommendations for improvement and change
- share the findings with policy makers, tribal council, funders, and community stakeholders.

# Engaging Youth through the SPF: Cultural Competence

- Identify, recruit and engage our tribal youth right from the beginning and sustain their involvement throughout
- Stress the importance of relevant, culturally-appropriate prevention approaches. The GONA is one of the best. Project Venture, AI Life Skills
- Involve culturally-sensitive and culturally-competent staff, volunteers, mentors, evaluators, other key stakeholders

# Engaging Youth through the SPF: Sustainability

- Emphasize sustainability and build support for your program/project from the beginning
  - Build ownership among youth
  - Identify program champions
  - Invest in capacity
  - Identify diverse resources
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- Seek and secure funding from a variety of sources

# Thank you

