SAPT Breakout

Facilitated by OSAP

1:30pm – 2:45pm

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

Meeting Notes

Attendance

See separate attendance sheet for SAPT Recipients, OSAP Team Members and partners in attendance.

The purpose of this meeting is to create dialogue. OSAP would like to hear from you all. The OSAP Team will propose three questions one at a time and host discussion.

1. What are creative ways your programs have used to report back to your communities on your successes?
* PTMI goes to the commission meeting to let the commissioners know what is happening in the area, especially related to NMCS and SFS survey data results.
* How have your presented it?
* It depends on the content being presented. If it is the NMCS, we highlight certain results. We do one pagers when appropriate. With the new cannabis strategy, we worked with dispensaries to distribute lock bags with a card with a call to lock up and some data from poison control. One of the dispensaries has partnered with the program and will be putting stickers on all of their edibles calling for locking up.
* Where are you getting your lock bags?
* We purchase our lock bags from Any Promo for $10 apiece. Lock bag locks can be tailored for an additional expense.
* Carlsbad Anti-Drug and Gang Coalition uses media messages, meetings, billboards, and an annual banquet. Starting with prescription drugs and lock boxes and an observation that no one was using them. After some research, the program found a digital lock that can be used on a cabinet and purchased online on Amazon. It is now being used to lock up prescriptions, alcohol, and marijuana. The program is working with 15 dispensaries to advertise free cabinet locks and the program has received calls from people requesting them.
* RMYC uses media campaigns, meetings, newsletters, community events, schools.
* CHI uses social media, print media, health council public meetings, coalition meetings. CHI Grant County is very active in getting people to take the NMCS and they work with their media specialist to relay back the data results to the community members in Grant County. Grant County congratulated law enforcement based on the NMCS results. Citizens reported high rates of locking up and CHI created a positive media message to congratulate the community and law enforcement.
* Mescalero hands out popcorn bags with information printed. A resources list is provided through the Deterra bags. A heart pillow was made with elders at their local senior center to solicit input from them as well. The program shares updates with Tribal Council.
1. With the implementation of fewer strategies, how are programs or projects feeling or seeing that this impacts the community? For example, if a program chose in FY23 to implement fewer strategies, how has that affected implementation efforts and the work within the community?
* Carlsbad reports that their program is able to focus and enhance a strategy and not feel like they’re spread too thin. They’re now doing direct service.
* Christina reports that some programs have not yet been able to report on the change due to partner turnover, staff turnover, changes in partnerships, etc.
* Follow up question: OSAP would like to identify whether it has been a plus to implement fewer strategies or not.
* CHI: My thoughts here for \*future\* strategy considerations- it may decrease duplication of efforts- for example- with the A2a strategy, we are rethinking how we may be able to tweak our approach based on the work local DWI partners are already doing
* RMYC is looking to drop at least one strategy next fiscal year.
* Carlsbad appreciates that this year having the ability and flexibility to meet the community needs rather than state mandated substances has been really rewarding and has allowed the program to tackle what is current. Having direct service has been great for reaching youth. Joanna appreciates fewer strategies.
* Candice: Candice is new to prevention and brings a new perspective, coming into the field and getting initial trainings and getting grounded, it was super helpful as it took seven months to get grounded in order to do higher quality work in partnership with prevention specialists with more experience. Having the flexibility is appreciated as it is a lot to grasp. Being more fluid with the strategies is appreciate because we can change with the community to serve the community with the best capacity possible.
* OSAP wants to offer flexibility and time to onboard and learn new positions and the strategic plan for new coordinators in order to set them up for success and to meet community needs.
* Valerie: Echoes what Candice said. It does take a lot of time to learn a new position. A few strategies take more capacity building than others. The less strategies, especially with onboarding new prevention specialists, lessening strategies is really beneficial especially when working on complex, long-term strategies that require a lot of capacity building. Capacity building is long term and ongoing. Having a capacity building strategy long term is something that would be helpful. Having strategies that we can work on really well is better than having a lot of strategies with not as much focused work.
* Give a thumbs up if a strategy focused solely on capacity would be beneficial. Ten thumbs up.
* Tanya: Thank you for hosting this webinar and the opportunity to share feedback and talk with OSAP. On the technical assistance side, we see a lot of turnover. Some of the turnover is related to being overwhelmed by the number of strategies and facing burnout, especially when coalition members are not involved or lack of buy in from the community, or lack of support in their organizations. When Tanya was working on seven strategies, it was really difficult with the barriers listed above. The capacity building strategy, especially with coalition building strategy felt like a whole strategy as a hidden extra strategy once it was replaced with another strategy.
* Liz: Re: adding a capacity strategy, remember that the WISE benchmarks allow for capacity building -- it's the first benchmark on all strategies.
* Christina: Circling back to Joseph's presentation re: rural areas, resources to support that work is often more because of location, it take more time and travel to fully support these efforts in these communities
* Adrian: Agrees with fewer strategies. By adding direct service, should even have fewer strategies. They currently have six strategies with one as direct service. The DS takes a lot of time and Adrian would advocate for fewer strategies. If you start with one grade in schools and the schools want to add more grades, you don’t want to say no but it is time consuming. DS is Know the Truth. They are currently working with one school full time and working with grades 7-12. There are four schools in the district.
* Joanna: All STARS with six graders and then the school district requests more. Now the program does more and was able to expand to a village that didn’t have any services.
* Tyson: This is a question of quality verses quantity. It gives more power to the community on how we are going to implement those strategies and fits the communities needs rather than something that was just given to us. Now we have more ownership on how we provide the service. For leadership, it is really important for them to grasp the information. Sindy and Allison have done such a wonderful job supporting the OSAP work. And OSAP has been very supportive. At the community level, we only have a short time with leadership and need to work closely with them to know the strategies. Fewer strategies also reduces duplication of services from other agencies. How we can wholistically balance those is key. It is quality over quantity.
* Liz: May be a touchy subject but fewer strategies can help us hold onto our stellar preventionists by allowing for raises (especially when overall budgets can't be increased).
* Angelica: Echoes Tanya’s comments. Everything said resonates with her. The other issue is the money. If there are fewer strategies, there is more money for each strategy.
* The OSAP system will be working with health disparities impact statements and will provide $10,000 to work on those going forward.
* Paula: Completely agree Angelica. We have been funded at the same level despite inflation and it is really hard to find services (trainers) that we can fit into our budget.
* Joseph: Echoes previous comments but also another request, from a long term point of view, capacity as a running strategy is something other funders appreciate as well. A strong coalition is the most valuable prevention effort one can have in their community. Usually, our programs are the only ones working cooperation and identifying duplication of efforts because other programs are not coalition based and are working toward a deliverable. That makes running capacity building really important. A note on travel, for rural communities, more money may be required for travel. Even within the same county, the next town could be 60 miles.
* Tone: Tone appreciates that transparency on cost needed.
* Please send Tone a budget with what you need for travel and make sure it’s accounted for and she will approve it.
* Josephine: Attended a meeting with housing authority last week and another person was in attendance and that person has a strong coalition. She was upset and said we were duplicating and would like to combine as one coalition since she has a large number of community members on board.
* Liz: What about allowing people to bill capacity efforts to STAR under Capacity rather than making it a separate strategy that has to be tracked and reported on?
* Tone: Yes, there can be duplication. Does anyone have supportive words for Josephine?
* Joseph: The issue is that different people are signing the checks. Because people’s checks are tied to deliverables, they have to group that way. A successful model has been in Hidalgo County. They have a coalition for substance misuse. It is a subcommittee of the health council. The health council can be a great umbrella as they are addressing many issues.
* Natalie: I would like to see OSAP adjust the funding amounts. $100,000 is not nearly enough. Back in 2010 OSAP communities were getting $150,000….in today’s dollars with inflation that would be almost $210,000
* Paula: @ Natalie that is so helpful to provide: what the rate would be considering inflation
* Liz: I agree Josephine. Join up with the coalition that's already going on. It may be the Health Council, it may be the treatment group, DWI council, an Opiod advocacy group..... Especially in rural communities it's an issue.
* Sindy: Making sure your OSAP program has a standing time on the agenda is important when using a subcommittee. It varies from community to community and the engagement level of the coalition in the work.
* Natalie: Yes - We often use the health council and add a substance use or Behavioral Health subcommittee
* Tone: Collaboration looks different to different people. Making sure everyone is on the same page is important and working toward each other’s goals is important.

New Topic

* Joanna: Liz brought up something in the chat. What strategies are time-consuming or what should be a strategy? It takes so much time to survey, the surveys themselves should be a strategy. NMCS should be a strategy. SFS could be its on strategy. The data collection takes so much time, effort, planning, people, it’s a lot of money for the investment of survey collection. That specific activity takes time. All the money that is being spent to do the surveys in this way could be more effective if we developed a different way to obtain the surveys.
* Liz: Regarding supporting coalition & capacity work, what about allowing people to bill these efforts to STAR under Capacity rather than making it a separate strategy that has to be tracked and reported on?
* Sindy: We have a deliverable for the NMCS- we provide a report and most of us create additional reporting formats for each community.

Wrap Up

* Tone would like to thank everyone for their input today. This conversation has been really productive. OSAP is hearing your feedback and will use it to plan for the future. She will also keep looking for additional funds.