Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence

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Safe Communities ~ FACT SHIETT

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Favorable Program Descriptions

Abecedarian Project

This early childhood educational intervention program is designed to increase family support for children's learning. This is done through assistance of a Home School Resource Teacher who delivers the curriculum to parents through biweekly home visits.

Across Ages

A mentoring/drug prevention program which seeks to improve relations between youth and older adults. Program combines three modalities: mentoring, community service, and a classroom curriculum component. Research evaluations indicate that these children exhibit more positive attitudes toward school, futures, and the elderly following the program. Frequency of drug use and truancy also decline.

Al's Pals: Kids Making Healthy Choices

This is a classroom prevention, resiliency-promotion, and social skills training program for children ages 3-8. It is a 46-lesson curriculum designed to teach young children the skills necessary for appropriate expression of feelings, problem-solving and coping skills, managing self-control, and engaging in positive interactions and relationships with peers and adults.

Bully Proofing Your School

This bullying prevention program targets students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Students are taught specific strategies and techniques to cope with and prevent bullying behavior through role-playing, modeling, class discussion, and classroom materials. Also contains a parent-training component.

CAPSLE (Creating a Peaceful Learning Environment)

CAPSLE is a school-based bullying prevention program for elementary school students in grades K-5. The core components include zero tolerance for bullying, bystanding, and being a victim, a discipline plan, and implementation of a relaxation program. It also includes a peer mentoring module whereby students and adult mentors collaborate and monitor power dynamics within the school.

Child Development Project (CDP)

CDP is an intensive program that uses the classroom, the entire school, and the family as vehicles for change. It is targeted to elementary students (K-8), and is designed to influence all aspects of the school – curriculum, pedagogy, organization, management, and climate. Studies indicate positive effects on relationships, social, ethical, and intellectual learning, as well as intrinsic motivation.

Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program

This is a cross-age tutoring project whereby at-risk youth with lower than average reading ability take classes to develop or enhance tutoring skills, as well as improve reading, writing, and other subject matter skills. It also is designed to reduce dropout rates, strengthen students' perception of self and school, and reduce student disciplinary referrals.

Comer School Development Program

This program is intended to improve school climate and prepare young elementary students for the academic and social demands of public schooling. One piece of the program is utilization of three teams: a Management Team, a Mental Health (or Student Services) Team, and a Parent Team. Overall, it shows positive effects in academics, school behavior, self concept of students who participate.

Creating Lasting Family Connections

As a church-based intervention, this program increases resiliency at the individual, family, and community levels. The focus is alcohol and drug use prevention for high risk youth aged 12-14.

Earlscourt Social Skills Group Program

This school-based social skills training intervention aims to increase pro-social behavior and to improve the self-control and social skills of moderately aggressive, noncompliant children ages 6-12. Results show significant improvement in teachers' ratings of negative behavior for children who received intervention through this program.

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Effective Black Parenting Program

The three goals of this program are: 1) to improve the quality of parent-child relationships, 2) to increase positive parenting practices, and 3) to decrease behavior problems and improve social skills in children. It contains 15 sessions and is framed within the perspective of the African-American culture.

Family Effectiveness Training (FET)

A long-term goal of this family intervention is to reduce drug abuse of at-risk Hispanic adolescents. Short term goals include decreasing other problem behaviors by improving the family structure and climate. FET uses components of Brief Strategic Therapy as part of the intervention.

Parent-Child Interaction Training

This program aims to decrease children's attention-deficit disorder symptoms and other behavioral problems. It is a parent-training program using techniques of modeling, role-playing instruction, story-reading, and dramatic play. It is most effective when used with low-income parents and pre-school children who have behavioral or emotional problems.

Peacebuilders

Peacebuilders is a program that employs comprehensive strategies designed to change the school climate – the everyday interactions of students/staff, and families. It uses four components: parent education, marketing to families, collateral training, and mass media tie-ins. It aims to ultimately reduce youth violence. The goals are to increase resiliency, reinforce positive behavior, and to alter the school environment to emphasize rewards and praise for pro-social behavior.

Peer Coping Skills Training (PCS)

PCS is designed to promote pro-social coping among children in first through third grade who are displaying high rates of aggressive behavior. The program had demonstrated positive effects in reducing aggressive behavior, and increasing social skills among program participants.

Positive Action Program

Designed as a school climate change program for grades K-6, Positive Action uses a holistic approach to school reorganization. It also addresses teacher-student relations, parent involvement, instructional practice, and development of the self-concept.

Reconnecting Youth

This school-based life skills training and social support program for high school students aims to decrease drug involvement, increase school performance, and decrease depression. It is geared toward students who are showing signs of poor school achievement, are at risk of dropping out of school, and are showing signs of multiple problem behaviors.

Safe Dates Program

Safe Dates is a dating abuse prevention program for adolescents. It uses social skills training and social norming to decrease peer sexual violence. Outcome studies indicate that this program is effective in decreasing sexual violence among adolescents. It consists of school and community activities promoting prevention.

Second Step

This K-9 program is a school-based violence prevention curriculum which includes exercises in cognition, emotion, and behavior to reduce impulsive and aggressive behavior. It is aimed especially at children who lack skills in empathy, impulse-control, and anger management.

Social Decision Making and Problem Solving Program (SDM/PS)

This program aims to improve elementary aged school children's problems solving skills. Children who have completed the program showed increased abilities to cope with stresses and pressures associated with the adjustment of entering adolescence and adulthood in the middle school environment.

Socio-Moral Reasoning Development Program

This program targets adolescents with behavior disorders who also have a high risk for delinquency. The goal is to increase the average level of maturity of socio-moral reasoning and prevent antisocial behavior both in and out of school.

Viewpoints

Viewpoints is a program for adjudicated adolescent youths who have been convicted of a violent offense and who show highly aggressive behaviors. It uses cognitive mediation training and attention control to increase their social problem-solving ability, and decrease aggression, impulsive, and inflexible behaviors. Program is held once a week for one hour, for a total of 12 weeks.

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