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COPS TRAINING

Building Professional Knowledge Series:
Tribal Prescription Drug Abuse and Drug Endangered
Children Training Program

Problem Solving Techniques to Address Prescription Drug Abuse

Lamar Associates-Indian Country Training

COMMUNITY POLICING — BUILDING Relationships, SERVING Needs

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Tribal Problem Solving Strategies to Address Prescription Drug Abuse

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Acknowledgement

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Tribal Problem Solving Strategies to Address Prescription Drug Abuse

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Welcome

- Thank you for joining us for this online course on problem solving techniques to address prescription drug abuse.
- You may complete this course in one setting or log out and return at anytime.
- If you return later, you will begin where you left the course.
- Please select the next button to begin.

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Tribal Problem Solving Strategies to Address Prescription Drug Abuse 

Objectives

- Define community policing and components
- Define problem solving
- Identify the problem solving process
- Examine an example of problem solving to address prescription drug fraud in a tribal community
- Identify education and prevention resources

Objectives:
Identify what is problem solving?
Identify the problem solving process
How problem solving can assist to address prescription drug abuse in tribal communities.
What resources are available to help with problem solving.


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About Community Oriented Policing

- The Department of Justice-Office of Community Oriented Policing Services defines community policing as:
 - A philosophy that promotes organizational strategies which support the systematic use of partnerships and problem solving techniques to,
 - Proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as:
 - Crime
 - Social disorder and
 - Fear of crime


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Three Components of Community Policing

- Community Partnerships: Collaboration
- Organizational Transformation: Alignment
- Problem Solving: Engagement
 - In this course we will focus on the problem solving component as it specifically relates to prescription drug fraud and abuse.


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What is Problem Solving?

- The process of engaging in the proactive and systematic examination of identified problems to develop and rigorously evaluate effective responses.


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Tribal Problem Solving Strategies to Address Prescription Drug Abuse 

Simply defined as:

- Simply defined for this course as:
 - “The process of engaging- Let’s collaborate
 - in the proactive- and address
 - and systematic examination- using a process to identify
 - of identified problems- the prescription drug abuse problem in our community and
 - to develop and rigorously evaluate effective responses”- determine our results.

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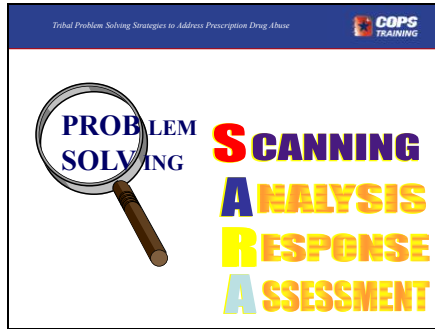
Tribal Problem Solving Strategies to Address Prescription Drug Abuse 

What is Problem Solving

- Identifies clusters of similar or related incidents (e.g., crime, disorder and fear)
- **Analyzes** the underlying conditions that create the problem
- Encourages long-term tailored **Responses**
- Promotes that rigorous **Analysis** and **Assessment** are key

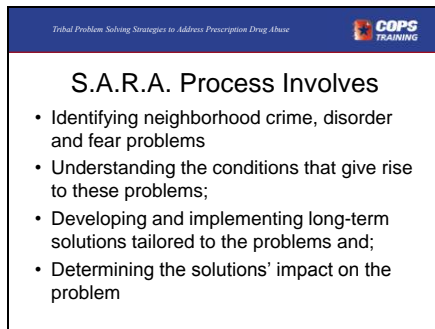
What is problem solving?
Identifies clusters of similar or related incidents (e.g., crime, disorder and fear)
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Encourages long-term tailored **Responses**
Rigorous **Analysis** and **Assessment** are Key
Early experiments in Madison, WI and Newport News, VA showed significant reductions in crime and disorder problems were possible

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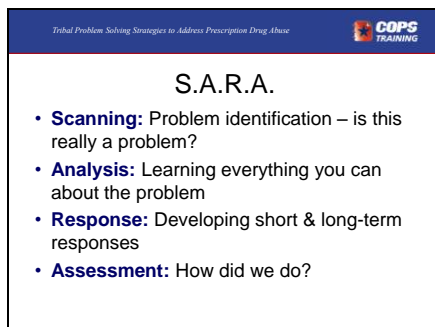
Problem Solving:
Scanning
Analysis
Response
Assessment

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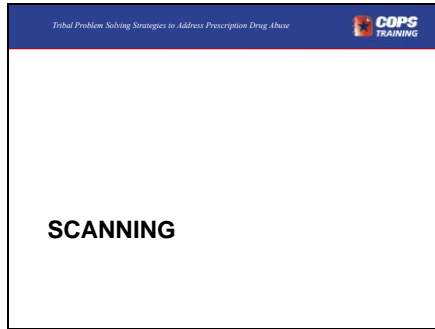
S.A.R.A. Process Involves
Identifying neighborhood crime, disorder and fear problems
Understanding the conditions that give rise to these problems;
Developing and implementing long-term solutions tailored to the problems and;
Determining the solutions' impact on the problem

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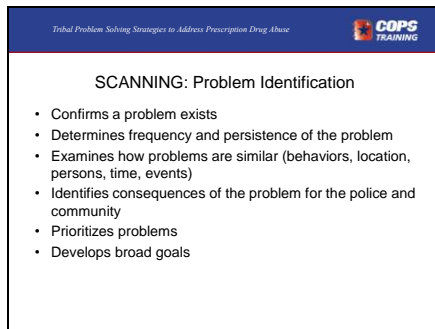


S.A.R.A.
Scanning: Problem identification – is this really a problem?
Analysis: Learn everything you can about the problem
Response: Short & long-term responses
Assessment: How did we do?
Which Step is most Important?
Which do we spend the least amount of time?

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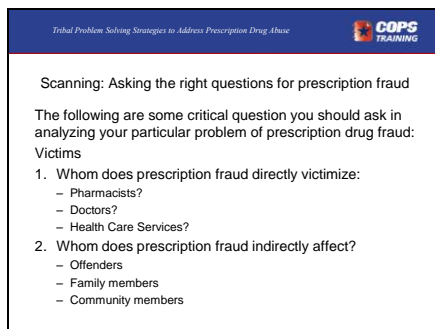


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Scanning:
Confirms a problem exists
Determines frequency and persistence
Examines how problems are similar (behaviors, location, persons, time, events)
Identifies consequences of the problem for police and community
Prioritizes problems
Develops broad goals

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Scanning: Asking the right questions
The following are some critical question you should ask in analyzing your particular problem of prescription fraud:

Victims

- Whom does prescription fraud directly victimize?
Pharmacists
Doctors
Health Care Services
- Whom does prescription fraud indirectly affect?
Offenders
Family members
Community members

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Scanning: Asking the right questions

Offenders:

3. What are the offenders' characteristics?
 - Age
 - Gender
 - Profession
4. Where do they live, go to school, or work?
 - In community
 - Outside community
5. What is the pattern of offending?
6. Is the fraud intermittent or regular?
7. Is there a regular time span between fraudulent acts (e.g., based on how long it takes to exhaust a supply of drugs)?

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8. What are the offenders motives?
 - Are they addicted to prescription drugs?
 - Selling the drugs for income?
9. Do offenders act alone or as part of a group?
10. What are their preferred tactics?

Scanning:

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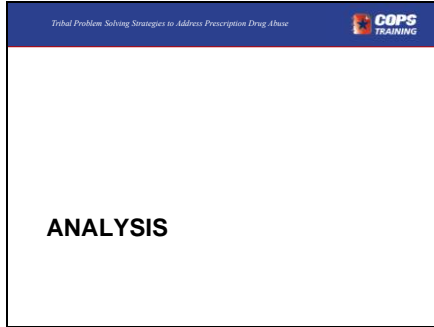
Location and Times

11. Where does prescription fraud occur (e.g., inside clinic, clinic parking lot, etc.)?
12. What specific locations is fraud most common?
13. Are certain doctors or pharmacies less likely to detect and report fraud?
14. What specific types of prescription drugs are diverted in your community or region?
15. When does prescription fraud occur (i.e., when do offenders try to have prescriptions filled)?
 - Time of day?
 - Day of week?

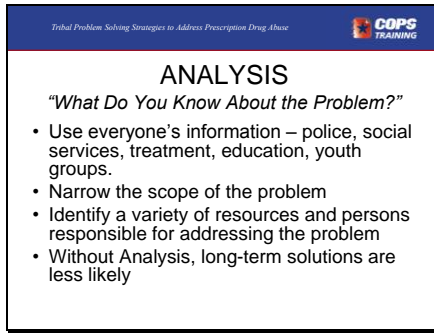
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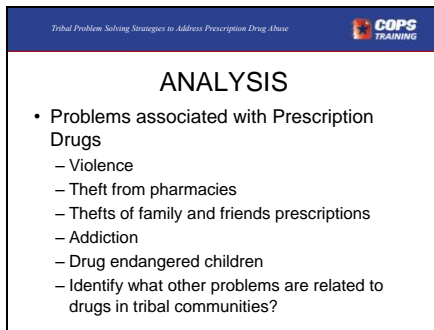


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Analysis;
 Use everyone's information – police, social services, treatment, education, youth groups.
 Narrow the scope of the problem: Identify Harms – "Small Wins"
 Identify a variety of resources and persons responsible for addressing the problem
 Without Analysis, long-term solutions are less likely

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Analysis:
 Problems associated with Prescription Drugs
 Violence
 Theft from pharmacies
 Thefts of family and friends prescriptions
 Addiction
 Child abuse and neglect
 What other problems are related to drugs in tribal communities?

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ANALYSIS

"Problem Analysis Triangle - PAT"

- Primary tool to explore recurring crime and disorder problems
- Addressing 2 or more sides of the triangle will reduce the problem



Analysis:
Derived from "Routine Activities Theory"
Primary tool to explore recurring crime and disorder problems
Addressing 2 or more sides of the triangle will reduce the problem

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ANALYSIS

- Research shows that crimes "Cluster" by:
 - **Behaviors:** identify theft, prescription drug theft, Dr. Shopping, prescription fraud addictive behaviors, child abuse and neglect
 - **Place:** family and friends residences, "pharming" parties, internet purchases
 - Research reveals 60% of crime occurs at 10% of locations
 - **Persons:** addicts, sellers (wait outside health services to purchase prescriptions), children and youth
 - Research reveals 55% of crime committed by 10% of offenders and 10% victims involved in 40% crime
 - **Time:** Time of day, day of week, events, etc...

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Time: Time of day, day of week, events, etc...

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ANALYSIS

"Who are Community Controllers?"

- **Offender Handlers:** family, friends, counselor's, health care workers, doctors, social workers, tribal court, tribal leaders
- **Victim Guardians:** police, neighbors, friends, family and others who happen to be in the same place
- **Place Managers:** Friends and family homes, Dr. Offices, Clinics

Analysis;
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RESPONSE


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RESPONSE

- Research what other agencies are doing
- Tailor strategies to problem – not symptoms
- Be creative - engage stakeholders
- Attack at least 2 sides of PAT
- Tailor responses to unique needs of community
- Consider short and long-term solutions



Response;
 Research what other agencies are doing
 Research “POP Guides”
 Tailor strategies to problem – not symptoms
 Be creative - engage stakeholders
 Attack at least 2 sides of PAT
 Tailor responses to unique needs of community
 Consider short and long-term solutions

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RESPONSE

“Establish Realistic Objectives”

- Can you eliminate the problem?
- How can you reduce the problem?
- How can you reduce the harms?
- How can you deal with the problem better?
- What parts of the problem can you remove from police consideration?

Response:
 Can you eliminate the problem?
 How can you reduce the problem?
 How can you reduce the Harms?
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RESPONSES


“Possible Actions”

- Plans to develop collaborative partnership to fight prescription drugs?
- How to educate tribal leaders & the public?
- How can you get other government and private sector agencies involved?
- Do you include methods to incorporate cultural or traditional approaches and education into fight against prescription drug abuse?

Responses:


Plans to develop collaborative partnership to fight prescription drugs and DEC?
How to educate tribal leaders & the public?
How can you get other government and private sector agencies involved?
Do you include methods to incorporate cultural healing and education into fight against prescription drug abuse and DEC?
What other responses can you implement?

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ASSESSMENT

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ASSESSMENT

- How do you evaluate your efforts?
- Identify what worked and what didn't
 - Determine why
 - Go back to Analysis & Responses
 - Re-engage
- **NOTE:** Document assessments going so others in the future don't reinvent the wheel

Assessment:

How do you evaluate your efforts?
Do you look at both quantitative and qualitative data? Why are both important?
Do you identify what worked and what didn't – “Go back to Analysis & Responses?”
NOTE: Keep assessments going so others in the future don't reinvent the wheel


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Problem Solving a prescription drug abuse problem in a tribal community.

EXAMPLE


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Scenario

- Tribal community members are witnessing prescription drug abusers hanging around the clinic.
- The abusers approach people after a doctor appointment, while at the clinic pharmacy, and in the parking lot.
- The abusers are attempting to purchase or trade for Hydrocodone not prescribed to them.


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Step 1

- Scan:
 - Eye witness accounts and complaints from clinic patients affirm this is a problem.


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Step 2

- Scan
- **Analysis:**
 - Health care workers confirm:
 - There is a security concern with addicts approaching patients during clinic hours of 8 am-5pm.
 - Addicts are requesting specific dose amounts and prefer Hydrocodone when seen by a physician.


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Step 3

- Scan
- Analysis
- **Response**
 - **Availability Strategy:**
 - Educate the health clinic staff of the confirmed addiction to Hydrocodone by community members.
 - Determine if effective pain management practices are being conducted.
 - Encourage alternative pharmaceutical options instead of Hydrocodone.


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Step 3

- Scan
- Analysis
- **Response**
 - **Prevention Strategy:**
 - Post notices that purchasing, attempting to purchase, or selling of non-prescribed drugs is illegal.
 - Collaborate with law enforcement to establish a Rx-Tip hotline.
 - Post notices of video recording of the clinic and parking lot during 8am-5pm.
 - Increase security patrols during 8am-5pm.


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Step 4

- Scan
- Analysis
- Response
- **Assessment (3 months)**
 - Is there a decrease of eye witness accounts, Rx-Tip reports, or patient complaints of the attempted purchase of Hydrocodone in the clinic waiting area, pharmacy, or parking lot?
 - Is there a decrease of addicts requesting specific dose amounts or specific Hydrocodone drug requests?
 - Is there a decrease in the security concerns by health officials?


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Collaboration

- This scenario is an example of how a group or coalition, comprised of traditional, grassroots, and service providers can use the problem solving process to prevent prescription drug abuse and fraud.

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RESOURCES

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Resources: Prescription Drug Abuse and Fraud

 www.ProjectDrugDrop.com Assists law enforcement with information, guidance, and directional support to develop and implement the best drug disposal strategies for their communities.

 www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov A event designed to reduce the availability prescription drugs that are either no longer needed or outdated. Law enforcement takes control of and destroys drugs.

 <http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ResourcesForYou>
Information about proper disposal of unused medicines in the home and take back programs.

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Resources: Prescription Drug Abuse and Fraud

 <http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/ric/ResourceDetail.aspx?RID=158> DOJ COPS problem oriented policing publication on prescription drug fraud.

 [Tribal Prescription Drug Abuse and Drug Endangered Children Website](#)
Tuition-free regional, online, and webinar training and technical assistance provided by Lamar Associates-Indian Country Training supported by the DOJ-COPS Office.

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 **Tribal** Prescription Drug Abuse and Drug Endangered Children Training and Technical Assistance

Tribal Prescription Drug Abuse and Drug Endangered Children. Tuition-Free Training and Technical Assistance.

Click and Pick Resources

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Conclusion

- By becoming more informed you have completed an important step in awareness and prevention.
- Please complete the post-course quiz to demonstrate your comprehension of problem solving strategies to address prescription drug abuse.

Conclusion

Becoming more informed you have completed an important step in awareness and prevention. Please complete the post-course quiz to demonstrate your comprehension of Tribal problem solving strategies to address prescription drug abuse.

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Congratulations

Thank you for completing this course. By becoming more informed you have completed an important step in awareness and prevention.

Please complete the course evaluation, then you may then print your certificate of completion.

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