From Associates to Allies: 
Forging Public Sector Partnerships that Prevent Violence

Presenters:
Annie Lyles, Program Manager, Prevention Institute 
Benita Tsao, Program Manager, Prevention Institute

Guest Presenters:
Arnulfo “AJ” Rosario, Houston Department of Health and Human Services (HDHHS)
Sheila Savannah, Houston Department of Health and Human Services (HDHHS)
Barrett Wilkinson, Prevention Coordinator, Public Health Division, City of Portland, Maine, Defending Childhood

Moderator:
Jennifer Rose, Consultant with Futures Without Violence

Welcome to the Webinar
We will begin at 11:00am (PT) / 2:00pm (ET).

A recording will be available after the webinar.
Your line will be muted to cut down on background interference so please use the chat box to share your name, your organization, your location and any questions you have for our featured speakers.
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- There will be time for Q & A at the end of the presentation.
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From Associates to Allies: Forging Public Sector Partnerships that Prevent Violence

September 10, 2014
About the Presenters

Annie Lyles and Benita Tsao
Program Managers
Prevention Institute
Polling Question

Which sector do you identify with or represent?

A. Community  
B. Health  
C. Education  
D. Other sector in local government
Polling Question

How many Prevention Institute webinars have you been on?

A. So many I’ve lost count
B. More than a few
C. One or two
D. This is my first one!
What can be done to prevent the problem from occurring in the first place?
The Prevention Continuum

**Up Front**
Approaches that take place BEFORE violence has occurred to prevent initial perpetration or victimization

**In The Thick**

*Immediate*
responses AFTER violence has occurred to deal with the consequences in the short-term

**Aftermath**

*Long-term*
responses AFTER violence to deal with the lasting consequences and treatment interventions
The Prevention Continuum

Up Front                          In The Thick      Aftermath

Parenting skills,                Mentoring,    Mental health
quality after-school            family support services,
programs, youth leadership,     services,      successful re-entry
conflict resolution,             violence       and street outreach
social connections in            interruption   outreach
neighborhoods,                   and street outreach
economic development
a systematic process that reduces the frequency and/or severity of illness or injury.

Promotes healthy environments and behaviors to prevent problems from occurring before the onset of symptoms.
Why Partner with Local Government?

Advantages of Working Together
Why partner with local government?
The Six C’s

Common Roles for Counties

Coordination  Capacity-Building
Communication  Contribution
Convening     Continuous Evaluation
Reasons to Collaborate

- Diverse expertise and more resources to reach common goals
- Access to new constituencies and networks
- Improved outcomes, greater effectiveness
- Less redundancy, greater efficiency
- Sustainability, appeals to funders
“So much of what affects people’s health are the environments they live in. Changing environments is one of the things that government can do that not a lot of other entities can.”

— Giridhar Mallya
Philadelphia Public Health Department
Multiple Forms of Violence

Risk & Resilience Factors
About our Guests

Sheila Savannah, MA, and Arnulfo Rosario Jr., MD, MPH
Division of Aging, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention
Houston Department of Health and Human Services
Martin Alcala Jr., Houston Public Works and Engineering Department
“By sharing the responsibility of addressing violence, the criminal justice sector can focus its expertise and resources where they’re most needed.”

— from Multi-Sector Partnerships for Preventing Violence
What are Roles for Criminal Justice?

Ways to support efforts that prevent violence
Center for Women & Families

- Organizational Assessment with 40 partners
- Partners are tiered into Core, Supporting and Interested circles
Public Health & Criminal Justice

Three Intervention Levels

UP FRONT
Education
Public Health

IN THE THICK
Behavior Modification

AFTERMATH
Punishment
Criminal Justice

Responsibility
About our Guest

Barrett Wilkinson, MPP
Prevention Coordinator, Public Health Division
City of Portland, Maine, Defending Childhood
PORTLAND DEFENDING CHILDHOOD: CROSS SECTOR COLLABORATION
PORTLAND DEFENDING CHILDHOOD (PDC)

- One of eight Defending Childhood Initiative sites working to address the issue of childhood exposure to violence.
- PDC focuses on promoting safe and thriving communities by offering information, support and evidence-based treatments.
- A collaborative effort, PDC is also aimed at building a coordinated information and referral network of violence prevention, intervention and treatment resources.
PDC & HOSPITALS

- Collaboration with outpatient pediatric clinic expanded to other child-serving hospital departments because of broad interest in implications of CEV on health.

- January 2014 pediatric grand rounds presentation: *Childhood Exposure to Violence: Impact, Screening & Treatment*

- Training in multiple departments underway, working towards universal screening for CEV.

- Steering committee meets monthly with representatives from children's hospital, home visiting, mental health, NICU, public health, and others.
PDC & SCHOOLS

- Initially worked to institute violence prevention curriculum by changing district standards.

- Instead, PDC built relationships with schools, teachers, support staff and administrators.

- Conducted pilot project in 6 classrooms during 2013-14 school year.

- Teachers from pilot project presented about experience to help spread use of the curriculum.

"The kids and I are loving the program and find it to be authentic and helpful. I'm glad I'm piloting it!" ~4th Grade Teacher
PDC & SCHOOLS

- After 1-year pilot a minimum of 70 classrooms are using the recommended curriculum.
- Positive feedback about the process from educators and students.
- Additional schools reaching out to join project.
COMMON THEMES

- Internal champions
- Supportive leadership
- Capacity to support the process
- Shared goals and collaborative approach
- Timing
For More Info

www.PortlandDefendingChildhood.org

Barrett Wilkinson
bw@portlandmaine.gov
Polling Question

How would you characterize your work with local government?

A. Not much yet
B. Parallel Play — meet occasionally to share ideas
C. Somewhere in between
D. Playing Together — meet regularly to plan and implement joint strategies
What challenge or barrier keeps you from engaging local government as partners?
Collaboration Multiplier
“Every partner has a different “What’s in it for me?” that needs to be discovered. Collaboration Multiplier is a good tool because it stops to ask and answer these questions.”

— Sheila Savannah
Houston Health and Human Services Department
Polling Question

Which of these sectors would you like to learn more about right now?

A. Community
B. Health
C. Education

✓ Justice
Relationship to Violence

Community

Violence and fear of violence:

- Make neighborhoods less friendly, safe, healthy and vibrant
- Block access to community assets and create additional demand for them
- Undermine a sense of community and connection to place
Why Prevent Violence?

Community

- Promote a sense of group belonging and improve quality of life
- Strengthen social networks for sharing information and to meet needs of community members
- Improve recreational, learning, economic, spiritual and other opportunities
What can the Community Do?

Prevent violence on your own & with others
- Mobilize residents, build leadership skills, and advocate for policy changes
- Conduct community assessments and engage residents so their priorities, assets and needs, are reflected in programs and services
- Establish robust referral systems and mechanisms for reporting problem locations and perceived safety and crime.
- Amplify local voices and build relationships with influential community members
- Share local stories and history to inform a coordinated and place-based approach to prevent violence
Community Unsung Heroes
Relationship to Violence

Health

- Violence injures, maims and kills people before they’ve lived a full life
- Violence increases the risk of other poor health outcomes and is a health inequity
- Communities cannot be healthy unless they are safe
Why Prevent Violence?

Health

- Save money for this sector, for patients and for taxpayers
- Reduce re-injury, pain and suffering
- Positive multiplier effect on health, wellness
- Stronger partnerships, expanded referral networks and improved health outcomes
What can Health Do?

Prevent violence on your own & with others
Champion the Importance of Preventing Violence
- Make the case, reiterate it is possible to prevent violence

Serve as a Resource on the Public Health Approach
- Train public health staff and other sectors
- Build community capacity and support mobilization
- Train health care to deliver culturally-appropriate health services and establish hospital-based violence intervention programs

Embed Prevention Strategies in the Department
- Prioritize activities, services and funding for populations and communities at greatest risk for violence

Support Other Sectors in Preventing Violence
- Facilitate data-sharing and utilization across departments and with other agencies, such as ED data
Relationship to Violence

Schools

Violence and fear of violence:

- Interferes with students’ learning and decreases school attendance
- Interferes with teaching and administration
- Undermines community support for quality schools
- Reduces funding for schools
Why Prevent Violence?

Schools

A multi-sector effort to prevent violence would:

- Free up school resources
- Improve school safety
- Mobilize community support for schools
- Expand capacity to improve academic outcomes for students most affected by violence
What can Schools Do?

Prevent violence on your own & with others
 Establish universal school-based programs that prevent violence and cultivate social skills
 Improve campus climate, and use data on students
 Enter into a joint use agreement, so school facilities are available for community use on evenings and weekends
 Hire teachers and staff who reflect the local culture and have strong community ties
 Deliver trauma-informed education
 Develop alternatives to suspension, such as restorative justice, to replace zero-tolerance disciplinary policies
Playworks
Which idea or joint strategy would you like to pursue with this sector?
Roles for Other Sectors

- Community Services (e.g., parks, library)
- Economic
- Governance (e.g., mayor’s office)
- Social Services
- Housing
- Planning & Zoning
- Public Works
- Transportation
Dare Greatly

- Be Brave & Show Up
- Avoid the Cheap Seats
- Be Courageous
- Practice Connecting

—Adapted from Oprah’s Life Class with Brene Brown
Multi-Sector Partnerships for Preventing Violence

A Guide for Using Collaboration Multiplier to Improve Safety Outcomes for Young People, Communities and Cities

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