

Enhancing Social Networks

2009 SAMHSA Grantee Technical Assistance Meeting

Thursday, January 8, 2009

Presenters: Charles Morse, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Alison Malmon, Active Minds, Inc.
Moderator: Dave Stewart, SPRC

Welcome!

Today's Agenda:

- Overview-SPRC
- Charles Morse, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- Alison Malmon, Active Minds, Inc.
- Discussion/Q&A
- Wrap-Up/Resources

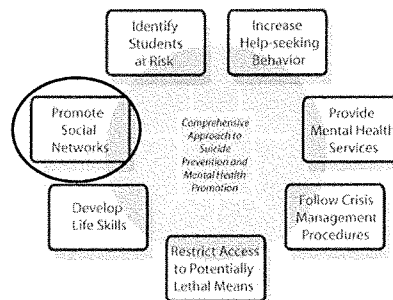
Overview

National Strategy for Suicide Prevention

- One of the Strategy's primary aims is to: *"Promote opportunities and settings to enhance resiliency, resourcefulness, respect, and interconnectedness for individuals, families, and communities."*

Overview

Jed Foundation/SPRC Comprehensive Approach:



Overview

Definition

- **Social Connectedness is:**

“...the degree to which a person or group is socially close, interrelated, or shares resources with other persons or groups (Centers for Disease Control).”

- **Related Concepts (Lee et al.; Orden, et al; Williams & Galliher):**

- Belongingness
- Social support
- Others?

Overview

Data and Research

Healthy Minds Study:

- 42% report that family or friend encouraged help-seeking

UC Berkeley:

- Graduate students' 1st contact to discuss emotional/stress-related problem— (spouse/partner; friend; family member; professional)

NRCCCH:

- Students with suicidal ideation 1st told—(family; partner/spouse; friend; professional)

Campus-specific data?

Overview

Framing the Discussion

What kinds of Connectedness?

- Connectedness between individuals
- Connectedness between individuals and organizations
 - Individuals and college/university
- Connectedness among organizations/institutions
 - Partnerships among departments/services

(Adapted from CDC)

Overview

Framing the Discussion

...Thinking broadly...

- How might activities address connectedness on these three levels?
- How might broad-based activities differ from campus to campus?

(Ex. Social activities/gatherings; peer programs; student organizations; electronic networks)