



The Pennsylvania State University
Prevention Research Center
For the Promotion of Human Development

After Randomized Trials: Issues related to dissemination of evidence-based programs

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NIH Conference on the Science of Implementation and Dissemination
January 2009

Outline

- Current state of the field
- Challenges to achieving broad public health impact
- A model for large-scale dissemination within one state

...and miles to go before I sleep

- EBPs still represent the minority of prevention programs
- Research has shown that many (most?) aren't being implemented with quality fidelity
- There is tension between advocates of strict fidelity and those who encourage local adaptation
- Very few replication sites measure or monitor implementation fidelity and quality
- Policy work is needed to capture & redistribute dollars saved through prevention
- Programs are still “add-on” and operate singularly
- Sustainability remains a challenge

See also Bumbarger, B. and Perkins, D. (2008). After Randomized Trials: Issues related to dissemination of evidence-based intervention. *Journal of Children's Services*, 3(2), 53-61.

Greenberg, M. T. (2007). School-Based Prevention: Current Status and Future Challenges. *Working paper for IOM/NRC Committee on Prevention of Mental Disorders*.

Pennsylvania's EBP Initiative

- Follows from earlier CTC initiative that promotes community coalitions, risk & resource assessment
- Nearly 200 EBP's funded since 1998
- Strong emphasis on implementation quality & fidelity, impact assessment, and sustainability planning
- Currently includes:

Olweus Bullying Prevention Program
LifeSkills Training
PATHS
Project TND
Big Brothers/Sisters

Strengthening Families 10-14
The Incredible Years
Multisystemic Therapy
Functional Family Therapy
Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care

The Goals:

- Preventing delinquency and youth violence to the greatest degree possible (reducing delinquency rates)
- Intervening effectively with youth for whom primary prevention is not sufficient (reducing further system penetration)
- Allowing communities the flexibility to select strategies that meet local needs
- Providing accountability and using scarce resources efficiently
- Increasing local capacity

The Challenges

- Adequate funding to support communities' needs for programming
- Achieving high-quality implementation
- Continuing to measure impact locally
- Achieving uniformity across programs
- Promoting sustainability
- Building in-state and local capacity

A word on fidelity vs. adaptation...

- While possible, fidelity is not a naturally occurring phenomenon – adaptation (more accurately program drift) is the default
- Most adaptation is reactive rather than proactive
- Most adaptation weakens rather than strengthens the likelihood of positive outcomes
- There is no “inoculation” against program drift

Risk-focused Prevention Planning

(the CTC model)

Collect local data on risk and protective factors



Use data to identify priorities



Select and implement evidence-based program that targets those factors

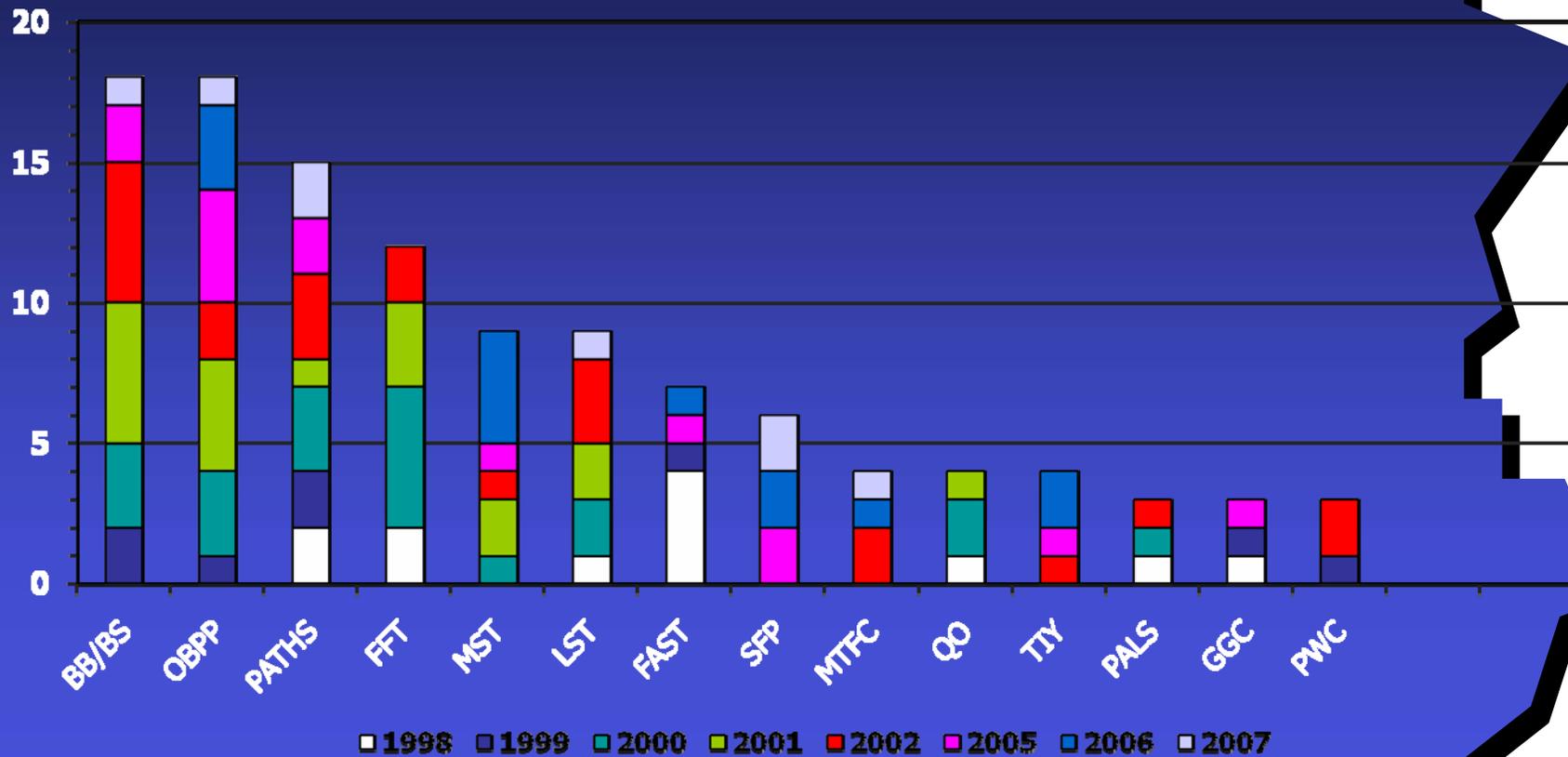


Re-assess prevalence of risk and protective factors

Replication of Effective Programs

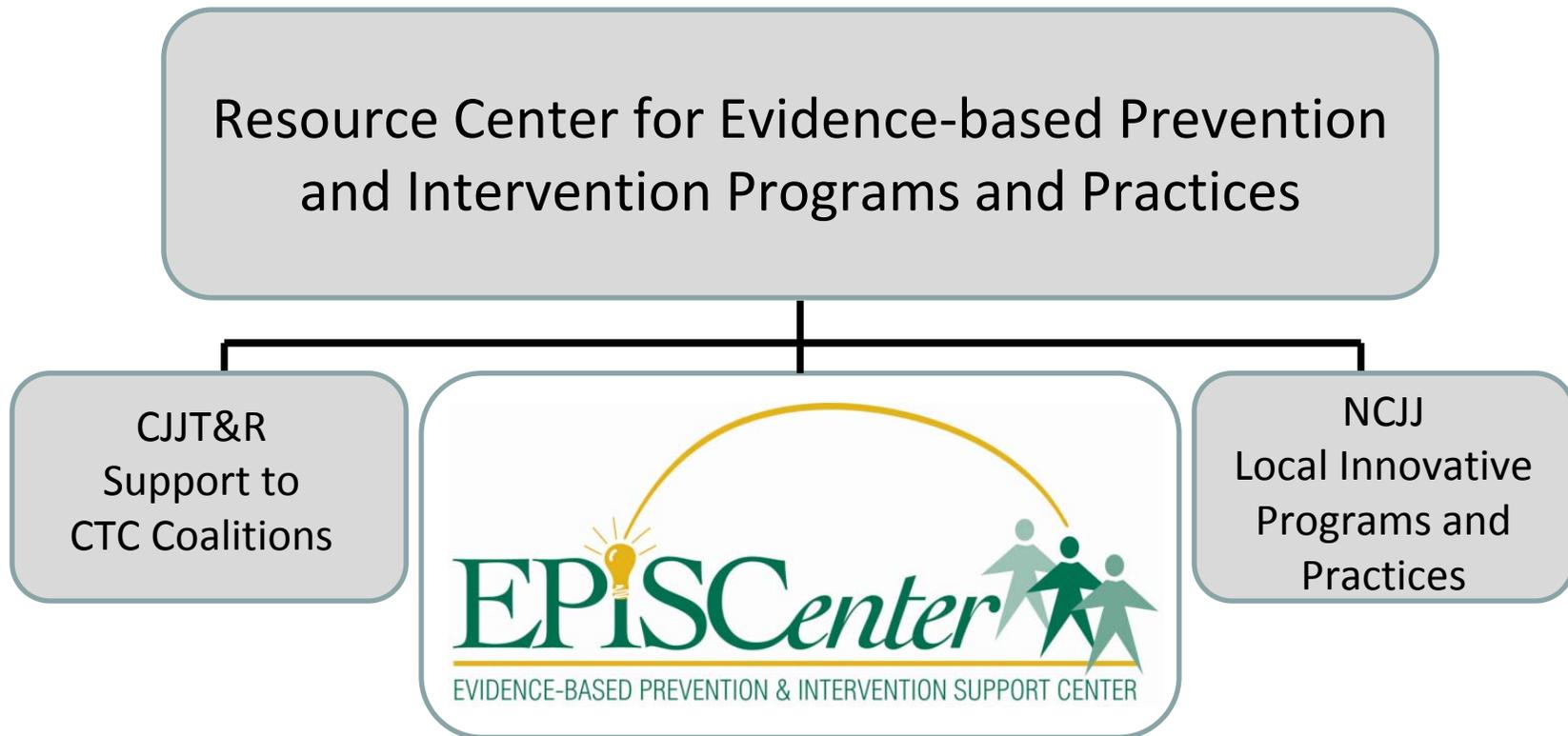
	Sites	Programs
1998	12	17
1999	8	9
2000	21	24
2001	19	21
2002	21	24
2005	14	24
2006	14	15
2007	15	15
2008	26	26
Total	150	175

Program Selection by Grantees



Improvements to the Initiative

- Reducing the list of fundable programs based on rigor of evidence, identified needs, and capacity to support replication
- Targeted, proactive technical assistance to sites
- Developing good performance measures and practical outcome assessment tools
- Requiring certification of implementation quality from developers
- Seeking sustainable funding through MA



A unique partnership between policymakers, researchers, and communities to bring science to bear on issues of public health and public safety

The EPISCenter is a project of the Prevention Research Center, College of Health and Human Development, Penn State University, and is funded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare as a component of the Resource Center for Evidence-Based Prevention and Intervention Programs and Practices.

Resource Center for Evidence-based Prevention and Intervention Programs and Practices

CJT&R
Support to
CTC Coalitions



NCJJ
Local Innovative
Programs and
Practices

- Conduct Outreach and Advocacy
- Provide Technical Assistance
- Develop Training and Resources
- Create and Facilitate Peer Networks
- Conduct Translational Research