Putting the pieces together: Ten years of youth research and many lessons learned.

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Presentation Overview

- Project Descriptions
- Lessons Learned
- Participant Demographics and Profiles
- Baseline and Six-month Outcomes
- Summary
LGBTQ Youth and Homelessness

Approximately 40% of homeless youth identify at LGBTQ.

Youth are coming out earlier.

Rejection and abuse are often cited as the main issues.

Transgender youth experiencing homelessness are more likely to engage in survival sex work.
• 2003-2008
• Five Year SAMHSA TCE-HIV project serving LGBTQ youth and young adults.
• Targeted Age: 13-23
• Collaboration between five agencies
• Designated youth program site
  • Structured activities
  • Therapeutic and crisis counseling
  • HIV testing and counseling
  • Seven session LGBTQ affirming curriculum
“My” Treatment Empowerment for Adolescents on the Move

• 2009-2014
• Five year SAMHSA-CHAB project serving homeless LGBTQ and straight allied (SA) youth and young adults.
• Six agency collaboration.
• Program delivered at Eon Youth LGBTQ Drop-in Center.
• Services:
  o Intensive Case Management
  o Linkages to Housing
  o Substance Abuse/Mental Health Treatment
  o Comprehensive Sexuality Education
• Sixty youth per year/5 years.
• Six month program with step-down case management; follow-up between six and twelve months.
Community Based Participatory Action Research

“Community-based participatory research is a collaborative approach to research that equitably involves all partners in the research process and recognizes the unique strengths that each brings. CBPR begins with a research topic of importance to the community with the aim of combining knowledge and action for social change to improve community...”

W.K. Kellog Foundation, Community Health Scholars Program, 2001 quoted in Minkler and Wallerstein (2003:4) 1

Youth Research: Lessons Learned

Or more appropriately titled...

Listen to your data

Be open to change...both in the world AND in research

Data is for EVERYONE
Utilization of past project data to inform new project and research

What have we learned through focus groups or through anecdotal data?

What are the current areas of need as demonstrated by the data?

What is the current socio-political climate?
Instrumentation revision and adaptation

To revise or not to revise, that is the question...

Don’t let your inner research nerd cloud your vision!
iTEAM Supplemental Questionnaire

Preferred Gender Pronoun: ____________________________

Gender and Sexuality Continuum

Place an “X” on the continuum where you have typically seen yourself in the past month with regard to your gender, your sexual orientation, and your biological sex.

1. Gender Identity (your internal sense of being masculine, feminine or somewhere in between)

Feminine ____________________________ Masculine

2. Biological Sex (your biological sex at birth)

Male ____________________________ Intersex ____________________________ Female

3. Sexual Attraction (your preference for romantic and/or sexual relationships)

Attraction for Women ____________________________ No attraction for Women ____________________________

Attraction for Men ____________________________ No attraction for Men ____________________________

4. Gender Identity
   - 1. Male
   - 2. Female
   - 3. Transgender
   - 4. Male-to-Female
   - 5. Female-to-Male
   - 6. Queer
   - 7. Questioning
   - 8. Two-Spirit
   - 9. Write In: ____________________________

5. Sexual Identity:
   - 1. Gay
   - 2. Lesbian
   - 3. Bisexual
   - 4. Queer
   - 6. Straight
   - 7. Questioning
   - 8. Two-Spirit
   - 9. Write In: ____________________________
8. Gender Identity
1. Woman
2. Man
3. Transgender
4. Female-to-Male (FtM)
5. Male-to-Female (MtF)
6. Genderqueer
7. Questioning
8. Two-Spirit
9. Different Term:
9v. ____________________

9. Sexual Identity
1. Lesbian
2. Gay
3. Bisexual
4. Queer
5. Questioning
6. Two-Spirit
7. Straight (Skip to 11.)
8. Pansexual
9. Different Term
9v. ____________________
## Data Accessibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Simplified</th>
<th>Relevant</th>
<th>Utilized</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Local evaluation data should be understood by all of the partners.</td>
<td>• Data collection aligned with project goals and objectives.</td>
<td>• Data used for program improvement.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research Design

**PRISM**
Data collected at baseline, 3-, 6- and 12- months post-baseline.
Instrumentation: GPRA, Selected GAIN Scales,
94% 6-month follow up rate
268 youth were enrolled.

**iTEAM**
Data collected at baseline and 6-months post-baseline.
Instrumentation: GPRA, GAIN-ART Core Version, Self-Acceptance Scale, iTEAM Supplemental Questionnaire
81% 6-month follow up rate
244 youth were enrolled.

**ANCHOR**
Data collected at baseline and 6- and 12-months post-baseline.
Instrumentation: Common Data Instrument, ANCHOR Supplemental Questionnaire
20 youth have been enrolled.
Participant Demographics: Race and Ethnicity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>PRISM</th>
<th>iTEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>47.8%</td>
<td>43.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>11.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latin@</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>42.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiracial</td>
<td>11.6%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participant Demographics: Gender Identity (self-selected label)

- Female: Prism 51.1%, iTEAM 45.1%
- Male: Prism 42.2%, iTEAM 43.9%
- Gender queer: Prism 1.2%, iTEAM 6.7%
- Transgender: Prism 9.0%, iTEAM 9.0%
- Something else (Two-Spirit, Gender-fluid, Polygendered): Prism 1.6%, iTEAM 1.6%
Participant Demographics: Sexual Identity

- Lesbian: 1.3%
- Gay: 21.3%
- Bisexual: 24.6%
- Straight: 24.3%
- Queer: 6.7%
- Questioning: 18.0%
- Multi-identified: 13.9%
- No label: 34.4%
- Other: 2.0%
- Unknown: 2.9%
- PRISM: 8.0%
- iTEAM: 6.1%
- Other: 3.7%
- Unknown: 6.5%
Participant Demographics: iTEAM-Sexual Attraction

Attraction to males
Equal Attraction
Attraction to females

- Female
- Male
- Transgender/Gender Queer

Numbers indicate the count of participants in each category.
Baseline Characteristics: Substance Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>PRISM</th>
<th>iTEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>80.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>48.0%</td>
<td>50.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine/Crack</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benzodiazepines</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxycodone</td>
<td>2.9%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percocet</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>1.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallucinogens</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Baseline Characteristics: PRISM-Trauma

Harassment

- Verbally harassed at school: 62% Total, 54% Gender Presentation, 59% Ethnicity, 30% Other
- Physically harassed at school: 35% Total, 43% Gender Presentation, 43% Ethnicity, 30% Other
- Verbally harassed outside of school: 67% Total, 49% Gender Presentation, 54% Ethnicity, 19% Other
- Physically harassed outside of school: 43% Total, 33% Gender Presentation, 19% Ethnicity, 19% Other
# Baseline Characteristics: iTEAM-Trauma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ever Experienced</th>
<th>Currently Worried</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attacked with a weapon</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical assault</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual assault</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional abuse</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Outcome Data: Housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRISM</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>6-month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Own apartment/house</td>
<td>48.4%</td>
<td>42.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend/Relatives House</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
<td>46.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporary housing/emergency shelter</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Housing</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution/Residential Treatment</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>iTTEAM</th>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>6-month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Own apartment/house</td>
<td>19.1%</td>
<td>39.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friend/Relatives House</td>
<td>54.3%</td>
<td>46.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td>11.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institution/Residential Treatment</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Outcome Data: Education and Employment

**PRISM**

- School or Training Program (full/part time)
  - Baseline: 62.8%
  - 6-month: 58.1%

- Employed (full/part time)
  - Baseline: 40.5%
  - 6-month: 52.1%

**iTEAM**

- School or Training Program (full/part time)
  - Baseline: 36.7%
  - 6-month: 32.9%

- Employed (full/part time)
  - Baseline: 23.8%
  - 6-month: 37.6%
### Outcome Data: Mental Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past 30 days</th>
<th>PRISM</th>
<th>iTEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>6-month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious anxiety or tension</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
<td>39.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serious depression</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>37.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trouble understanding, concentrating, remembering</td>
<td>44.7%</td>
<td>45.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Outcome Data: Substance Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past 30 days</th>
<th>PRISM</th>
<th>iTEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>6-month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>68.8%</td>
<td>54.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol to Intoxication</td>
<td>41.9%</td>
<td>47.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>36.7%</td>
<td>28.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary

- Don’t be afraid to get what you need from your data. Research and data should be used for program improvement.
- Programs don’t operate in a vacuum. We have to adapt and change to meet the needs of the people we serve and affirm their identity.
- Many LGBTQ youth and young adults living in the community:
  * Are homeless or lack housing stability and are not in school or employed.
  * Indicate moderate substance use and substantial mental health problems.
  * Report having experienced trauma and have trauma-related symptoms.
Questions?

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