



Uniform Minimum Standards for Prevention and Early Intervention Programs

Minimum Standard #1: Clear Statement of Problem/Issue(s) to be Addressed.

The program/project identifies the specific problem/issue(s) to be addressed, and describes a population or geographic area where the problem/issue exists. Estimates of the extent and nature of the problem in the population or geographic area to be served are based on relevant existing local, regional, state or national data (e.g. data from health, human services, education, law enforcement agencies, relevant studies or program data).

Minimum Standard #2: Focus on Contributing Factors.

The program/project specifies risk factors known to contribute to the problem and/or protective factors known to prevent or reduce the problem/issue(s) identified; and focuses its resources on changing these risk and/or protective factors. If specific risk and protective factors related to the problem have not been identified in the literature, the program/project provides a clear rationale for the program focus, based on relevant prevention/intervention or child/youth development principles, theories or frameworks.

Minimum Standard #3: Intended Outcomes Specified.

The program/project specifies one or more measurable outcomes it intends to achieve as a result of the prevention and intervention program/services to be provided. These intended outcomes are related to changing factors contributing to the problem, or factors contributing to the prevention or reduction of the problem. The intended outcomes specify the changes in knowledge, attitudes/beliefs, skills, behaviors, obstacles/enabling factors in the physical or social environment and/or changes in the physical or emotional health status, educational achievement or well-being of the individual, group or community being served.

Minimum Standard #4: Evidence-Based Programs/ Services.

The program/project provides prevention or intervention services that have been previously implemented in one or more communities with demonstrated success in achieving the intended results, or that otherwise demonstrate a reasonable potential for success based on research, sound prevention/intervention principles or relevant theory.

Minimum Standard #5: Services and Target Population Specified.

The program/project specifies the amount and type of services to be provided, and the proposed number of individuals, groups or the target population that will receive or benefit from the various program activities/services.

Minimum Standard #6: Evaluation.

(a) The program/project systematically documents and is able to provide data regarding services provided/activities carried out and the number of individuals, groups and/or target population(s) receiving the services or benefiting from program activities; and (b) the program/project systematically documents changes occurring as a result of the program services and activities provided; and is able to provide evidence of progress in meeting one or more of its intended outcomes.

Minimum Standard #7: Agency Capacity.

(a) Staff carrying out the program/project are trained in the specific program, services or model that they will be implementing; or they have at least two years prior experience in the successful implementation of similar prevention or intervention programs, practices and/or policies; and (b) The agency maintains records of revenues and expenditures by funding source, and can produce verification of expenses upon request. An independent review of the fiscal records/practices is conducted periodically, but no less frequently than annually.

Minimum Standard #8: Collaboration.

The program/project regularly exchanges information with other public, private and non-profit prevention, intervention programs at the state, regional or local level (e.g. faith-based organizations, health, law enforcement, human service agencies, or other units of government) for the purposes of resource sharing, coordination of efforts, case management and to avoid duplication of services.