



Youth Systems Building

Working together to improve outcomes for youth.

Maternal and Child Health Conference
March 7-8, 2012

Welcome and Introductions

- Warm Up
 - Share Name, Agency and Role
 - What makes you interested in youth systems building?
 - What is your comfort level working on this topic? (“Not at All,” “Kind Of,” or “Really”)
- Give and Get Cards

Overview of Today's Presentation

- Background of Youth Systems
- Historical Context in Colorado
- Context Re: the PSD Healthy Youth Team, Colorado 9to25 Initiative, Public Health Youth System Cadre
- State-Level Logic Model
- State-Level Goals, Objectives and Strategies of the Action Plan
- Opportunity for Questions/Feedback/Ideas
- Next Steps



BACKGROUND

Background

- Population:
 - Youth and young adults ages 9-25
 - Youth and young adults in Colorado have high rates of obesity, teen pregnancy, STIs, substance use/abuse, depression and suicide.
 - There also continues to be significant racial, ethnic, geographic, socioeconomic, and other disparities that affect the health and well-being of this population.
 - Engaging in unhealthy behaviors can lead to health consequences (i.e. chronic disease) for youth, both while they are young and also as they age.
 - Youth and young adults want and need to be part of the solution!

Background

- Problem:
 - Improving the health and well-being of youth takes coordination and collaboration of the various government agencies, nonprofits, foundations, businesses, etc.
 - There is no coordinated “system” for youth and young adults in Colorado.
 - Research shows that while investments in early childhood are good, later investments in improving the health of youth and young adults result in more favorable outcomes.
- We really wanted to come together around shared protective factors to improve outcomes for youth.

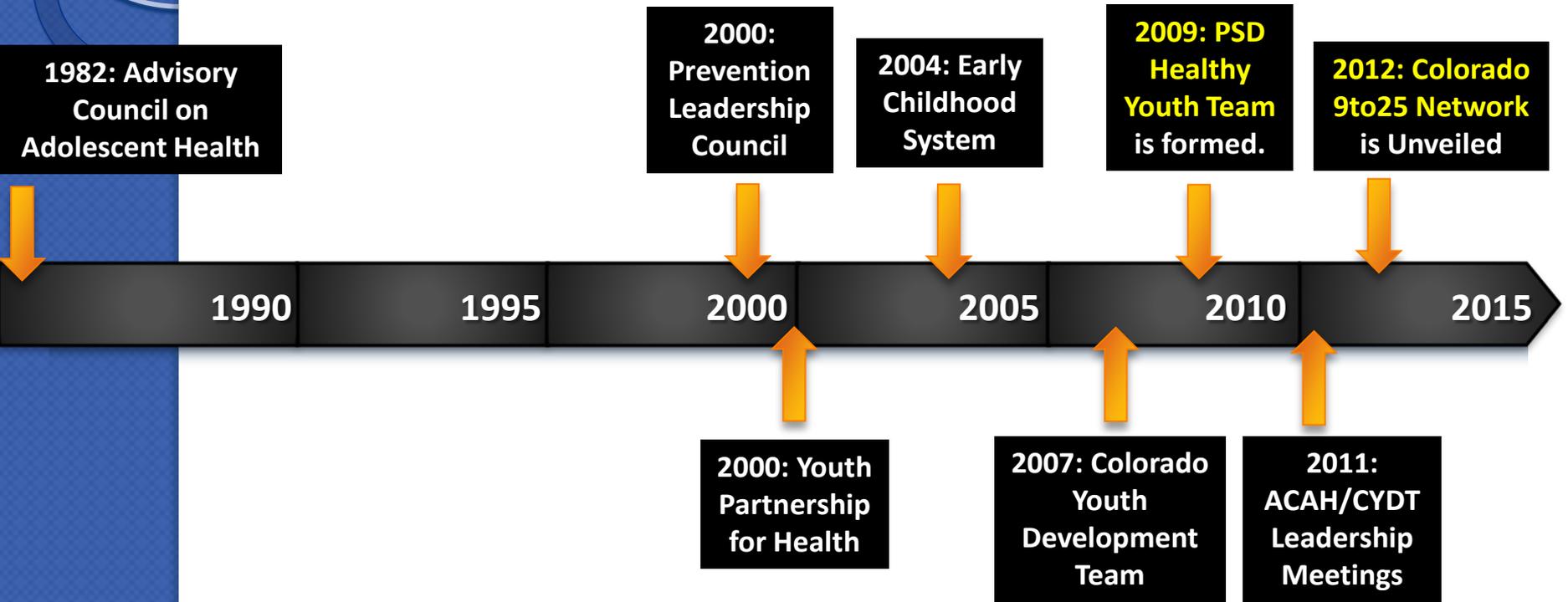
Focus for Next Year

- No Local Level Logic Model or Action Plan for FY2012-13
- State-Level Focus is on the
 - PSD Healthy Youth Team
 - Colorado 9to25
 - Building a Public Health Youth Systems Training Cadre



HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Overview of Youth Systems Work in Colorado





PSD HEALTHY YOUTH TEAM

PSD Healthy Youth Team

- Who: Representatives from each branch/unit in the Prevention Services Division
- Purpose: Prevention Services Division youth serving programs/initiatives will operate as a coordinated, integrated system.



PSD Healthy Youth Team

Activities	Outcomes
Create a list and description of programs and	PSD staff utilize the list, are familiar with other programs and make decisions that align with PSD youth values and priorities
Develop an efficient communication system	Increase in effective and efficient communication among PSD youth-serving program staff
Identify and implement 4 opportunities to create/enhance PSD policies affecting youth outcomes	Agency policies are in place to provide an environment that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows youth to successfully work and gain valuable experience in the public health sector • Promotes, values and incorporates youth input and feedback in programs and initiatives that affect youth • Improves work with our community partners who have similar goals in improving youth health and well-being
Promote and implement 4 learning communities.	PSD staff use effective, cross-cutting strategies in a coordinated way
Conduct a “gaps analysis” and implement 3 opportunities to improve programs and initiatives	Gaps are addressed and programs are improved
Identify PYD indicators to incorporate into the statewide youth surveillance tool	PYD indicators are incorporated into the youth surveillance tool



**PSD HEALTHY YOUTH
TEAM PROGRESS**

PSD Healthy Youth Team

Activities	Progress
Create a list and description of programs and	A very cool, interactive website! http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/pp/development/psdyouthprograms/
Develop an efficient communication system	We have established a Google Groups
Identify and implement 4 opportunities to create/enhance PSD policies affecting youth outcomes	Youth Friendly Guidance has been passed by both PSD and the Department! It guides staff on how to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow youth to successfully work and gain valuable experience in the public health sector • Promote, value and incorporate youth input and feedback in programs and initiatives that affect youth • Improve work with our community partners who have similar goals in improving youth health and well-being
Promote and implement 4 learning communities.	We have hosted one already and another one is planned for April 2012 on Positive Youth Development
Conduct a “gaps analysis” and implement 3 opportunities to improve programs and initiatives	Hired 9 PSD Youth Interns who are here to guide us in our work re: social media, healthy eating/active living and the Tony Grampsas Youth Services Program (a violence prevention program)
Identify PYD indicators to incorporate into the statewide youth surveillance tool	In progress



COLORADO 9TO25

Colorado 9to25 Initiative

- Advisory Council on Adolescent Health
 - Purpose
 - Periodic Reports
 - Website: www.healthyyouthcolorado.org
 - Developed the Colorado Youth Development Team in partnership with the Youth Partnership for Health
- +
- Colorado Youth Development Team
 - Purpose
 - Developed a Colorado Definition of Positive Youth Development
 - Statewide Survey
 - Community Conversations

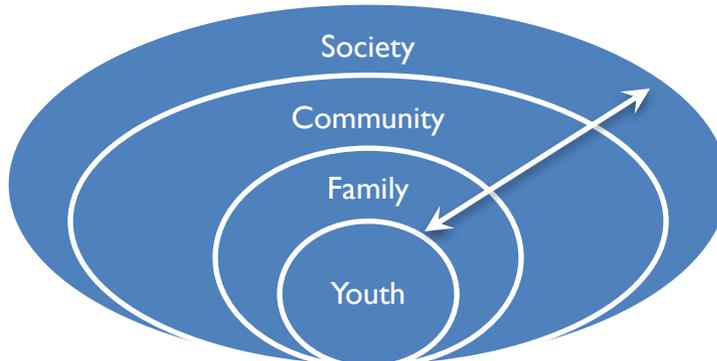
and anyone else interested!

Colorado 9to25 Initiative

Goals/Outcomes:

1. All youth are safe.
2. All youth are physically and mentally healthy.
3. All youth receive a quality education.
4. All youth are contributing.
5. All youth are connected.

We must all address all levels of the socio-ecological model:



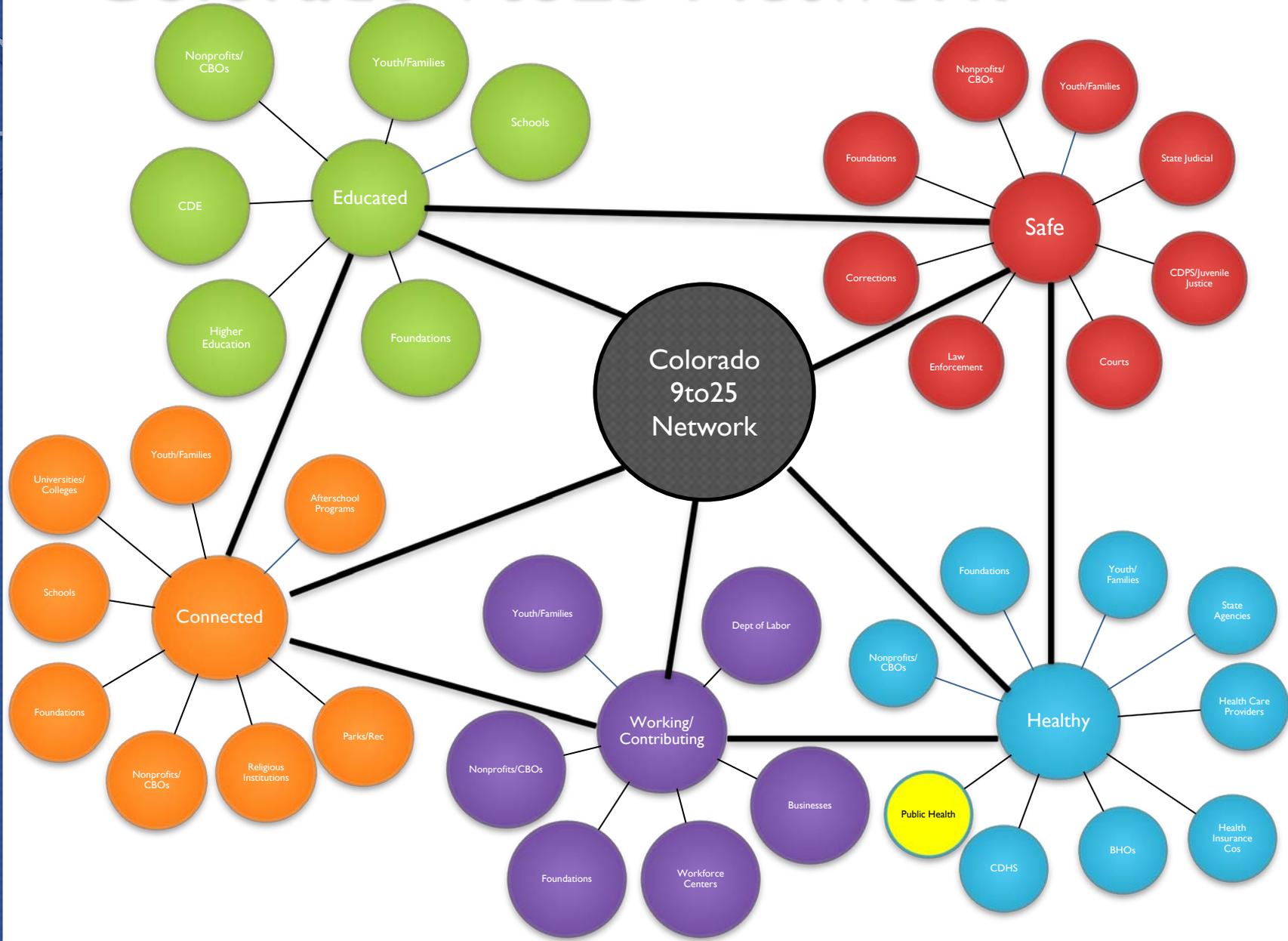
By using a positive youth development approach...

Draft Colorado 9to25 Framework



Designed In Partnership with Charles Ives Merau Waldo, IV (aka "Waldo")

Colorado 9to25 Network



Colorado 9to25 Initiative

**To build a coordinated, comprehensive youth system
to improve the health and well-being of youth
so that all young people can reach their full potential.**

Build, Strengthen and Mobilize Partnerships	Raise Public Awareness	Promote Best and Promising Practices	Share Accountability for Results	Promote Policy and Environmental Change
Connect and mobilize people/coalitions via network meetings and social media	Share and promote Positive Youth Development	Host professional development opportunities (trainings, workshops, learning communities)	Develop and implement a strategic plan with shared outcomes	Identify policies that create positive environments for youth
Promote and engage in youth-adult partnerships	Share and promote the Colorado 9to25 Framework and Network	Contribute to the research field of youth health and well-being	Evaluate outcomes using a shared measurement tool	Prioritize and promote policy change at the state and local levels
Actively engage diverse youth and adults who are most impacted by the system	Identify and promote areas of alignment between the framework and other initiatives	Identify and share "lessons learned" and resources	Fund/invest in programs that promote protective factors & reduce risk factors	Educate decision makers on effective policies that promote youth health and well-being
Engage "non-traditional" partners to achieve a unified vision	Demonstrate how the framework can be applied.	Promote and evaluate innovative practices and strategies	Develop mechanisms for feedback and reflexive learning	Implement, enforce and continually assess policy changes

Positive Youth Development is the Foundation – Building skills, opportunities and supportive relationships, while focusing on strengths, engaging/partnering with youth and promoting equity and social justice.



**PUBLIC HEALTH
YOUTH SYSTEM
TRAINING CADRE**

Public Health Youth System Training Cadre

- What is a “cadre?” - a nucleus or core group especially of trained personnel able to assume control and to train others; a group of people having some unifying relationship; *a group of “professional revolutionaries”*

Public Health Youth System Training Cadre

- Format
 - Quarterly in-person events (on us! :)
 - The first will be two days to build relationships and provide training on a variety of topics
 - The next three will be to share lessons learned, resources and continue learning together.

Public Health Youth System Training Cadre

- Topics

- What is a “Youth System” Anyway?
- What is Positive Youth Development and How Can I Incorporate It Into My Work?
- How Can I Engage and Partner with Young People in a Meaningful Way?
- Evaluating Systems Work
- Developing Shared Outcomes
- Other Ideas?

Public Health Youth System Training Cadre

- Team Makeup
 - MCH staff
 - Other public health staff
 - Youth
 - Parents
 - Local human service org/group (Collaborative Management/1451),
 - Nonprofit organization
 - School personnel



**STATE-LEVEL LOGIC
MODEL**

State-Level Action Plan



GOALS

OBJECTIVES

AND STRATEGIES

Goal 1: Increase collaboration of Prevention Services Division programs and initiatives impacting youth

- Objective A: By June 2012, PSD youth-serving staff will report an increase in effective communication and coordination.
 - Strategy: Develop and implement a mechanism to increase communication and coordination
- Objective B: By December 2012, PSD youth-serving staff will have the capacity to integrate the CO9to25 Framework into their work.
 - Strategy: Increase the capacity of PSD youth-serving staff to integrate the CO9to25 Framework into their work

Goal 2: Increase the alignment of youth programs and initiatives involved in the Colorado 9to25 Network

- Objective C: The public health role in youth systems building is understood and valued by key internal and external stakeholders.
 - Strategy: Mobilize partnerships to support the coordination of state and local youth systems efforts
- Objective D: By January 2013, internal and external partners across Colorado use the CO9to25 Framework to improve the health and well-being of youth.
 - Strategy: Develop and promote the CO9to25 Framework and "Call to Action" to increase alignment of youth efforts in Colorado
- Objective E: By July 2012, a sustainable infrastructure for a statewide youth network (CO9to25) exists.
 - Strategy: Develop and maintain the infrastructure for a statewide network.

Goal 3: Increase the percentage of trained youth who are routinely and systematically involved in informing and shaping state and local decision-making

- Objective F: By January 2014, youth and adults are connected and working toward developing youth systems in their communities.
 - Strategy: Coordinate and enhance the capacity of the statewide network of youth advisory councils/group
- Objective G: State and local partners in Colorado are utilizing the “standards for youth engagement.”
 - Strategy: Develop and promote standards for effective and meaningful youth engagement.



Goal 4: Increase in number of policies implemented that support a coordinated and integrated youth system in Colorado.

- Objective H: Policies are in place to support a coordinated and integrated youth system in Colorado.
 - Strategy: Develop and implement policies that support a coordinated and integrated youth system

Goal 5: Increase in number of LPHAs and other community partners implementing plans to build local youth systems.

- Objective I: Local public health agencies have the knowledge, training and skills to build youth systems in their communities.
 - Strategy: Increase capacity of LPHAs to effectively build/enhance local youth systems using the CO9to25 Framework
- Objective J: Resources are available and provided to support the development and implementation of LPHA action plans.
 - Strategy: Support LPHA planning and implementation efforts to build youth systems across Colorado

Reflections

- What are your initial reactions?
- Does this align with the work you currently do?
- If so, do you have any lessons learned you'd like to share?
- How does this work relate to the other priorities?
- What resources are already in place at your agencies to make this work easier?
- What skills are needed to do this work?
- Specifically re: the Cadre...
 - Do you see yourself participating in this?
 - What do you think about the proposed format?
 - Which topics got you excited? What's missing?
 - What did you think of the proposed team makeup?
 - Other ideas/thoughts/questions?

Next Steps

- We will be contacting you about the process for participating in the cadre (e.g. survey, application)
- Please sign up to be added to the CO9to25 Network List so you can receive latest and greatest info, participate in learning communities and be part of the quarterly network meetings!
- If you have any questions or ideas regarding positive youth development and/or youth system building, don't hesitate to contact us...

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