Section C

Effective Programs
Ineffective Strategies for Violence Prevention

- Scare tactics
- Segregating aggressive students
- Short-term interventions
- Identification of the pre-violent adolescent
- Focus on providing information
- Focus on self-esteem only

Source: Dusenbury, et. al. *J School Health.*
Ineffective Strategies for Teen Pregnancy Prevention

- Providing information alone
- Scare tactics
- Short-term interventions
- Abstinence only
- Contraception only
- School-based services
What does research show us about what works to improve youth health outcomes
Violence Prevention Strategies

- Building supportive (adult-youth) relationships
- Have clear principles, objectives, and a theoretical frame
- Recognize strengths of communities
- Build on resiliency of youth
Elements of Positive Youth Development

- In substance abuse prevention, effective programs include many elements of positive youth development
  - Skills training
  - Providing life options
  - Linking youth to social contexts (adults, school, community institutions)
  - Expanding youth participation
  - Empower communities to control drugs
Positive youth development is defined as participation in pro-social behaviors and avoidance of health compromising and future jeopardizing behaviors.
Connections Count

- Parent and family connections
- School connections
- Peer connections
School Counts

- School achievement
- School involvement
- School climate
Parents Count

- Parent availability
- Parent expectations for school performance
- Parent values
A Positive Youth Development Framework Provides

- Safety and structure
- Belonging and group membership
- Self-worth and contributions
- Independence and control over one’s life
- Competence
- Closeness with peers and nurturing adults

Source: Kirby & Coyle.
Five Aspects of Institutions that Enhance Youth Development

- Providing youth choices and control over things that affect their lives
- Having a safe place to be themselves
- Being treated with dignity and respect
- Having access to relationships that create connections and connectedness
- Being surrounded by hope and promise

Blum’s Positive Youth Development Model

The Adolescent

People: An adult who cares, who is connected; a network of adults who are involved in the life of the adolescent

Contributions:
The opportunities to contribute to family, neighborhood, community, youth involvement

Place: A place for youth to congregate, to recreate with adult supervision, to develop friendships

Activities: School and community activities that develop a sense of connection/belonging
Wrap Up