Improving Your Injury and Violence Prevention Practice:

How the Core Competencies Can Work for You

Presented by the Southeastern & Southwestern Injury Prevention Network and Safe States Alliance
September 10-11, 2001
Tom, what led us to Chapel Hill on that fateful day?
Injury and violence prevention in the late 1990s, in context, was a field of practice with several shortcomings.

- Large success existed in identifying strategies to reduce injury, but translation to the community was poor.
- Many community programs were not based on evidence.
- Training levels of community practitioners were minimal.
- Existing infrastructure to enhance training was poor.
- A lot of silos.
This Institute of Medicine report had the blunt assessment that….

“education is the area in which the field of injury has made the least progress”
The core competencies are one part of the response to the lack of training infrastructure outlined in the IOM report.

Leaders in practice, academia, and government came together to identify possible solutions.

CDC-NCIPC and HRSA-MCHB provided funding to spur collaboration on developing a plan to build training infrastructure.
Why were the core competencies developed?
The competencies were developed because . . .

- Competencies, in general, outline what an organization does best
- Amended, competencies, in practice, outline what knowledge and skills are needed to succeed.
- Before the competencies were developed, there was no agreed upon standard for what skills and practices were needed for injury and violence prevention practice
How I’ve Used the Competencies

To build “organizational” competency
Hiring staff that are proficient in specific competencies
Adding competency-based questions to interview guide

To build personal competency
Justify the importance of continuing education to upper management

Shelli Stephens-Stidham
Parkland Health & Hospital System
Mary Ann, your experience with the core competencies is different than mine. How have you used the competencies?
Engaging hospital system support
Using competencies to set focused objectives
Evaluation of key external collaborations and stakeholders
Disseminate IP messages through diverse platforms
Stimulate organizational change by identifying gaps in policies

Mary Ann Contreras
John Peter Smith Health Network

How I’ve Used the Competencies
Tom, as researcher, how have you used the competencies?
How I’ve Used the Competencies

To guide curriculum development
- Develop training material to address specific objectives in the competencies
- Develop assessments to identify proficiency in specific objectives

To communicate the meaning of research results to lay audiences
- Using competencies to frame messages from research results
For researchers, the core competencies provide a standard to use for:

- Hiring, training, evaluating, and maintaining staff
- Communicating the meaning of research results to lay audiences
- Guiding the evaluation of research activities
- Thinking about how to translate research findings
- Identifying research needs for practice
- Building a common framework for collaboration
Kristen, the Safe States Alliance has many resources, including an online training center. Can you tell us about some of those resources, and how the Core Competencies have shaped Safe States’ training approach?
Safe States Alliance’s mission: Strengthen the *practice* of injury + violence prevention

- IVP workforce development needed to enlarge the pool of skilled and competent professionals, build capacity for IVP, and draw talented professionals to this field

- Training Center provides access to trainings/other learning opportunities that can raise awareness, increase knowledge, and build skills for preventing injury and violence

- 2016 redesign of Training Center grounded in IVP + PH core competencies
Training Center database
Search options include **topic and core competency**
Example of training description

**Understanding Your Role in Injury & Violence Prevention Policy**

**Organization:** Safe States Alliance

**Time/Length:** 2.0 Hours  
**CEU Credits:** 2.0 Hours  
**Course Code:** 27135

**Description:** Understanding Your Role in Injury & Violence Prevention Policy is an online self-study that provides an overview of public health policy and the policy process, discusses the role of state health departments in this process, and provides policy development and implementation case studies from four states. The case studies address policies about child fatality prevention, child bicycle-related head injury, and e-liquid containers, as well as the development of a state policy resource.

This 2.0 hour self-study training is comprised of five modules and multiple resources, including:

- CDC: Policy Process and Injury & Violence Prevention
Each training mapped to core comps
Self-Assessments based on core competencies

IVP Self-Assessment – improvements coming in Fall 2017 + IVP Orientation Toolkit

Links provided to PH Self-Assessments
Questions?