Best Practices

Implementation

✓ Delivery Mode
  • Camp – residential
  • Camp – day camp in summer
  • School release days (holiday breaks, etc.)
  • In school
  • Out of school
  • After school
  • Partner with other organization (Y, Girls Inc., Parks and Rec., Boys & Girls Clubs, Scouts, church youth groups, current partner groups, etc.)

✓ Reaching 10 teaching contact hours
  • Incorporate into classroom settings
  • Use avenues that make it easy
  • Provide no incentives until all hours, including evaluation, completed

✓ Incorporating youth and adults as partners
  • Eliminate excuses for not participating
  • Collaborate with schools to get students released to teach
  • Programming when students are available

✓ Promotion and Marketing
  • Utilize available pieces
  • Church bulletins, organizations newsletters
  • Email/Websites
  • Direct contact with youth organizations
  • Attend teacher in-services, organization conferences, boards and councils
  • Pull-up banners, table throws, Health Rocks! badges
  • Youth interviews
  • Media packets

✓ Incentives
  • Kits to instructors
  • Provide food/snacks
  • Money to school/classroom/teacher for reaching certain number of youth
  • Equipment for instructors classrooms
  • For students – t-shirt/tote/something they want

✓ Partner Inclusion
  • Share key webinars with them
  • Provide necessary training
  • Recognition
  • Maintain regular (not intrusive) contact

✓ Partner Accountability
  • Mini-grants – half of money comes at beginning, half at end
  • Memorandums of Understanding
• Frequent contact
• Identify partner benefits
• Create a schedule that each partner/organization agrees on (serves as a guide for the program and an unofficial MOU)
• Provide a course outline including objectives, etc.

**Evaluation**

✓ Getting evaluation surveys back
  • Communicate importance of evaluation
  • Share ways to use the data (e.g., to fulfill reporting, present to stakeholders)
  • Encourage program staff to find ways to complete evaluation requirements
  • Incorporate evaluation surveys as part of the lessons
  • Build in time during refreshments
  • Track attendance to know which youth completed 10 hours
  • Provide assistance to youth (individually or as a group) to complete the survey
  • Use a variety of methods (paper-pencil, computer, iPads) based on accessibility of tools and age of youth
  • When administering survey, participants cover pre-column and complete post-column, then cover post-column and complete pre-column

✓ Tracking monthly reach
  • Plan who will monitor reach and who will complete monthly survey
  • Even with no additional information or new numbers, still complete the report

✓ Compliance
  • Create spreadsheet or reporting method (e.g., Survey Monkey) for sites to use in reporting
  • Regularly monitor compliance to procedures
  • Maintain contact through monthly phone calls or emails to sites

✓ Data entry
  • Allow ample time to enter surveys
  • Enter monthly
  • Hiring students to enter surveys

**Fund Development**

✓ Identifying potential partners
  • Partners who want the similar outcomes as Health Rocks! (insurance companies, hospitals, medical groups, etc.)
  • Share identified partners with other states

✓ Asking for dollars
  • 15 second elevator speech
  • Identify key partners to serve as advocates

✓ Sharing need and successes
  • Focus on benefit to them
  • Communicate data pertaining to the need (e.g., national, state, and local level data on substance use)
  • Share evaluation data on impact of Health Rocks!
  • Forward success stories to other states