Creating a Strategic Financing Plan

LifeSkills Training

Webinar Series
January 13, 2011

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Our Goals for this Webinar Series

1. Share a framework and process for sustainability planning
2. Provide information, guidance and tools to support sites in creating a sustainability plan
3. Create opportunities for dialogue and peer learning across LST grantee sites

Selected items that you reported as **your** goals for this series:

- Learn about effective sustainability strategies and practices
- Understand funding sources
- Guidance and tools to work on a sustainability plan

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Brief Recap of Webinars to date

Introduced:

- the sustainability framework and planning process
- the sustainability planning self-assessment tool
- a framework for understanding how results and outcomes can support sustainability

Provided:

- guidance and tools to assemble a sustainability planning team

Your Reflections

•Sustainability planning requires buy-in and ongoing commitment to be successful

•There are many options for members of your sustainability planning team: members of school PTAs, PTOs, community-based organizations, teachers, counselors, district staff, etc.

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Today's Agenda

1. Review steps for creating a strategic financing plan.

2. Discuss funding sources that can be used to support LifeSkills Training implementation.

3. Explore financing strategies that can be deployed to support your LifeSkills Training initiative.

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Developing a Strategic Financing Plan

1. Determine cost

CSPV LST cost calculator, available at:
http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/lst_grant/calculator.html

2. Map current funding

3. Assess gaps between cost and available funds

4. **Identify funding sources and financing strategies**

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Identify Funding Sources and Financing Strategies

Suggested Process:

1. Clarify what you need and when
2. Review current funding mix
3. Get more information about funding sources
4. Determine what funding sources are most appropriate

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Context Matters

What are some contextual issues you should consider when considering funding sources?

- Policy-related considerations
- Political context?
- Economic context?
- Considerations related to partner organizations?

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Potential Funding Sources

- **U.S. Department of Education**
  - Grants to Reduce Alcohol Abuse
  - Partnerships in Character Education
  - Safe and Supportive Schools
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture**
  - Rural Youth Development Grants Program
- **U.S. Departments of Education, Justice, and Health and Human Services (Jointly Administered)**
  - Safe Schools, Healthy Students

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Effective Financing Strategies

1. Making Better Use of Existing Resources
2. Maximizing Federal, State, & Local Funds
3. Building Public-Private Partnerships

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Resources: Funding Sources

- **TFP's searchable federal funding catalog – www.financeproject.org/fedfund_search**
- **Federal funding –www.cfda.gov, www.grants.gov (grant opportunities and online applications), Census Consolidated Federal Funds Report and agency websites (grantees)**
- **LifeSkills Training-specific— www.lifeskillstraining.com**
- **Foundation Center – www.fdncenter.org**
- **Publications –Chronicle of Philanthropy, www.grants.philanthropy.com, Youth Today www.youthtoday.org**
- **Private donors – www.grassrootsfundraising.org and www.techsoup.org (technology support for nonprofits, including donor development)**

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Sustainability Planning Webinar Series

- **October 27:** Overview of the Sustainability Planning Framework and Process
- **November 4:** Using the Self-Assessment Tool to Benchmark Progress and Identify Priorities
- **December 1:** Using Results and Benchmarks to Support LST Sustainability
- **January 13: Creating a Strategic Financing Plan**
- **February 15:** Organizational Capacity and Community Support
- **MAY 10:** Developing and Writing the Plan

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Archived webinar materials can be found at:

http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/lst_grant/sustainability/index.html

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