



Building Organizational Capacity and Community Support

LifeSkills Training

Webinar Series

February 15, 2011



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

Brief Recap of Webinars to Date

Introduced:

- the sustainability planning process and self-assessment tool
- a framework for reviewing how results and outcomes can support sustainability
- steps in creating a strategic financing plan

Provided:

- guidance to assemble a sustainability planning team
- resources to identify funding streams

Your Reflections

- Sustainability planning requires buy-in and ongoing commitment to be successful
- Your sustainability planning team might include: members of school PTAs, PTOs, community-based organizations, teachers, counselors, district staff, etc.
- Strategies to embed LST in school/district budgets are promising

Today's Agenda

Goals - To identify resources and design strategies related to:

1. Adaptability to Changing Conditions
2. Community Support and Key Champions
3. Strong Internal Systems





Adaptability to Changing Conditions

What does it look like for an LST program to be adaptable to changing conditions? Why is it important?

What steps can your LST program take to become more adaptable to changing conditions?

1. Assess your current progress
2. Develop appropriate strategies

Suggested Strategies

- Join a state or local advocacy coalition
- Join relevant listservs and e-mail newsletters, e.g. evidence-based prevention programs, youth drug and alcohol prevention, etc.
- Attend a forum on health care, youth and risky behaviors, etc.



Community Support and Key Champions

What does it look like for an LST program to develop strong community support and key champions? Why is that important?

What steps can your LST program take to broaden and deepen its relationships in these two areas?

1. Assess your current progress
2. Develop appropriate strategies

Suggested Strategies

- Develop a PowerPoint presentation to share with PTA and other community groups
- Build a relationship with the local media
- Participate in a public will building campaign with other health or education organizations
- Create a way to thank existing key champions, e.g. in the school newsletter

Internal Systems

Do you have systems in place to help manage your LST program?

1. *Communications* – e.g. systems to report student completion rates to parents and other stakeholders
2. *Fiscal management* – e.g. systems to gauge how quickly program funds are expended
3. *Staffing* – e.g. systems for cultivating new LST teachers

What steps can your LST program take to strengthen its internal systems?

1. Assess where you are currently
2. Develop appropriate strategies

Suggested Strategies

- Develop a communication plan to address the internal work of the LST program
- Enlist support to strengthen financial management systems



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**



Contacting Us

The Finance Project
1401 New York Avenue, Suite 800
Washington DC, 20005
(202) 628-4200
www.financeproject.org

Shawn Stelow Griffin, Senior Program Associate, sstelow@financeproject.org
Jenifer Holland, Senior Program Associate, jholland@financeproject.org

Lori Connors-Tadros, Vice President, Children and Family Services
lctadros@financeproject.org

Archived webinar materials can be found at:

http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/blueprints/1st_grant/sustainability/index.html