

# **The disconnect between model programs and communities**

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**Or...**

**Progress in dissemination  
of environmental  
community interventions**

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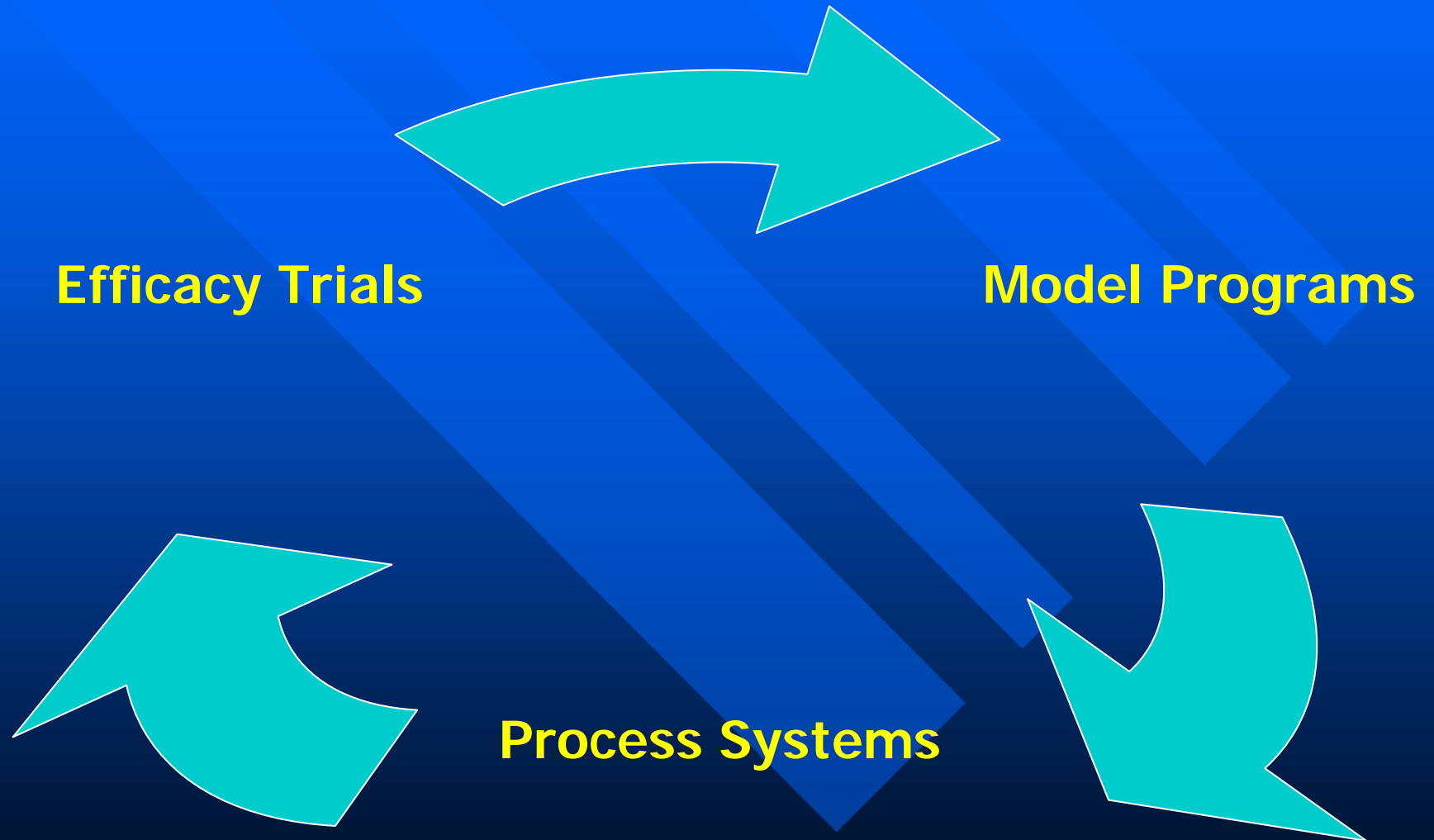


**Why does the promotion of evidence-based programs and policies to communities continue to be elusive for researchers, practitioners and funders?**

# Evolution of Environmental Prevention

- **Efficacy trials**
- **Model programs**
- **Process systems**

# Overview



# **Learning Objectives**

## **A greater understanding of the...**

- **Challenges implementing environmental EBP**
- **Standards of evidence**
- **Influence of efficacy trials**
- **Intent of model programs**
- **Development of process systems**

# **Environmental Strategies**

- **Focuses on community structures, policies and controls that target the entire population to create system level change (Holder, 1992)**

# Challenges to Communities

## ■ Infrastructure

- Capacity / readiness
- Mobilization
- Communities uniqueness
- Sustainability
- Outcomes

# Challenges to researchers

- **Getting communities to adopt and implement EBP as designed**
- **What can they do to bridge the gap between research and practice?**

# Prevention Science

- **Efficacy Trials**
- **Effectiveness Trials**
- **Broad Dissemination Trials**

# Efficacy Trials

- Answered need to identify EBP
- Rigorous evaluation in control setting
  - Suggests that if these programs are replicated as designed, we can be fairly confident of obtaining similar results (Flay et. al, 2005)

# Effectiveness Trials

- **Test efficacy trials in real world settings**
- **Provide opportunity for EBP modification that is monitored and evaluated**
- **Establish intervention implementation instruction and guidelines for replication**

# Dissemination Trials

- **Test broad EBP dissemination using a variety of implementation alternatives from effectiveness trials**
- **Develop effective and efficient implementation criteria**
- **Monitor and evaluate the process and outcomes**

# The reality is...

- **Effectiveness trials and broad dissemination trials are not being funded**

# **Environmental Efficacy Trials include ...**

- **Predetermined goals and objectives**
- **Mobilization strategy**
- **Evidence-based comprehensive intervention strategy**
- **Process and outcome evaluation**
- **Yet, often lack explicit program implementation instructions**

# **Environmental Efficacy Trials**

- **Community Trials**
- **Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol (CMCA)**
- **Border Project**
- **Safer California Project**

# Community Trials

- **Goal: To reduce alcohol-related trauma**
- **Comprehensive five component strategy (synergistic effect)**
- **Top down / bottom up approach to mobilize community to adopt intervention strategies**

# CMCA

- **Goal: to reduce underage access to alcohol**
- **Employed a community organizing model to mobilize stakeholders, and select interventions and guide implementation process**
- **Bottom up approach**

# Border Project

- **Goal to reduce cross-border intoxication and associate problems**
- **Hybrid partnership**
- **Policy, media advocacy component**
- **community organizing enforcement and media model**

# Safe California University Project

- **Efficacy trial – Randomized controlled study**
- **Planned for replication**
  - Risk management approach
  - Toolkit
  - Sharepoint site
- **Applying for a renewal grant for control sites (effectiveness trial)**

# **SAMHSA's CSAP Model Programs Dissemination Project**

- **Hypothesis: the adoption of evidence-based strategies would be facilitated by building and promoting a registry for those programs and policies**

# **Agencies with Model Programs**

- **SAMHSA's CSAP National Registry of Effective Prevention Programs**
- **Blueprints for Violence Prevention**
- **U.S. department of Education**
- **No child Left Behind Act**
- **Society of Prevention Research**

# **SAMHSA Model Program Selection**

- **Uses 15 criteria**
- **Some criteria include:**
  - Underlying theory
  - Intervention fidelity
  - Process evaluation
  - Sampling strategy and implementation
  - Outcome measure
- **Agreement with program designers to disseminate program materials and TA**

# Process Systems

- **Created to assist communities to adopt EBP (model programs)**
- **Provide communities with a framework to assess, plan, implement and evaluate effective programs**

# Process Systems

- **Communities That Care (CTC)**
- **Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)**
- **SPF / State Incentive Grants (SIG)**
- **Rand / SPF**

# Communities That Care

- **Major objectives:**
  1. **To take communities through a process that leads to the adoption of EBP**
  2. **To select a model program that matches the identified problems**
  3. **To increase the likelihood the model program will be implemented with fidelity**

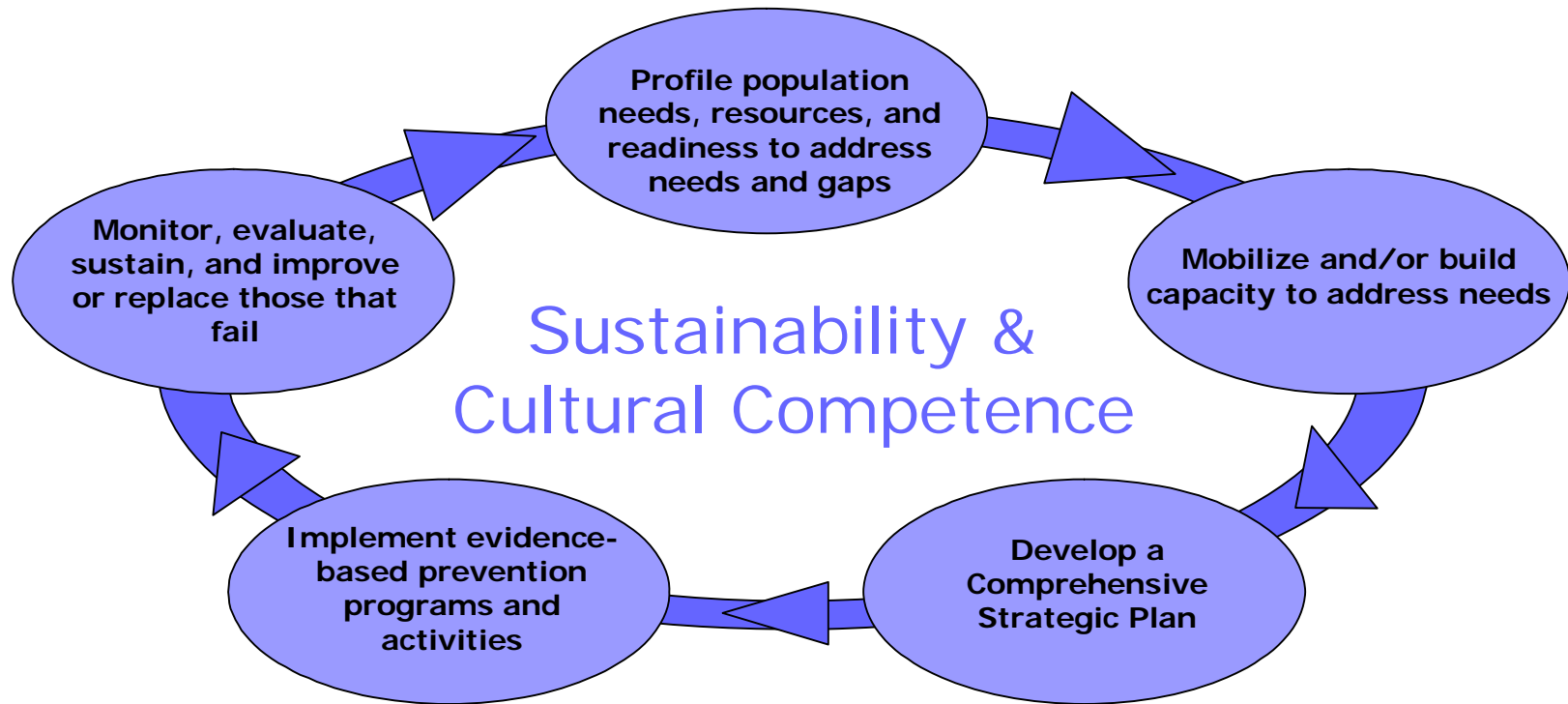
# SPF

- **Attempts to bridge the gap between programs that work and communities that need them**
- **Uses a five step process that promotes effective assessment, planning and evaluation**

# SAMHSA's

## Strategic Prevention Framework Steps

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# SPF/SIG

## ■ State Incentive Grants requirements

- Using SPF Framework for prevention
- Selection of Model Program for implementation
- State Epidemiology workgroups
- Local and state evaluators

# Rand/SPF

- **Expands SPF framework to address environmental strategies to reduce underage drinking problems**
- **Builds upon “Getting to Outcomes” and incorporates their accountability questions**

# Discussion

- **The evolution from model programs to process systems is evidence of a growing recognition that merely providing information (e.g. on programs that work) is not sufficient**

# Discussion Assumptions

- **Communities need to be aware of the evidence**
- **Communities need to be aware of the nature and scope of problems**
- **Communities should match the strategy of program to the need**

# And....

- **CTC and SPF and other process systems were pioneering attempts to develop processes for effective prevention work but clearly more needs to be done**

# **Considerations for Researchers- studies that...**

- **Design where alternative approaches of a specific strategy is varied (e.g. with vs. without coalition)**
- **Studies on the optimum composition of coalitions and infrastructure**
- **Studies that work to improve efficiency of community change**
- **Test taking apart multi-component intervention strategies**
- **Look at issues affecting adoption of specific prevention strategies**

**The End**

# Contact Information

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