SUMMARY OF FINDINGS Regarding Key Informant Interviews Conducted With Teachers and Principals in Schools Where SRAE Programming Was Conducted by OAHCP Collaborators

BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

Social Capital Valuations (SCV) was contracted to provide a qualitative evaluation of Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) programming conducted by collaborators of the Ohio Adolescent Health Centers Project (OAHCP). 50 interviews were conducted in March – May, 2023.

The following summary is organized by the elements of the interview guide.

Role / Subject: Almost all of the teachers were Health/PE teachers. However, a few taught subjects such as English, Morality and Ethics, Social Emotional Learning, and Life-coaching.

Length of relationship: Most teachers have a strong relationship with the collaborator that dates back between 5 and 20 years.

Was the instructor sent into your school/classroom able to connect with the students and set the right tone for student receptivity and engagement? The universal response to this question was a resounding yes. Many instructors use name tags to learn students' names and interests on Day 1 and are able to engage in one-on-one conversations before and after class.

What is the feeling about how the instructor presented the material? Was it Engaging? Interesting? Respectful? Who were your favorite instructors…what made them so good? The best instructors share certain qualities such as: authenticity/honesty (e.g., telling their own stories), mastery of the material, and a genuine interest in and respect for the students. The willingness to field questions from students was the most often cited proof of respect. Enthusiasm, energetic personality, and a sense of humor were also frequently mentioned. Three of four key informants for one collaborator mentioned classroom management as the key attribute of a successful instructor.

In terms of the content – what topics were the most important and was the information useful? Healthy relationships and STDs were by far the two most mentioned topics of importance and covered well by OAHCP collaborators. The next most mentioned topics fall under the aegis of awareness about and the skills to avoid: abusive relationships (including red flags), coercion (including the legal definition of "Consent"), and alcohol and drugs that impair judgement. How choices affect one's decisions for a positive future. A couple of collaborators use activities to practice refusal skills.

How did the content and timing of the SRAE programming relate to the content and timing of your curriculum? Were you able to coordinate what was taught (and when) with the instructor? About half of the respondents mentioned that OAHCP collaborators' curricula help the Health teachers comply with Ohio House Bill 110. Most respondents said they have a good working relationship with instructors and are pleased that they help to reinforce the message that the classroom teacher is trying to convey. In terms of timing, almost every respondent agreed that they are happy to accommodate the collaborator's schedule, whenever they can be worked in.

Were there topics that were missing that you wished had been covered? For example, Consent? Social Media? Conflict Resolution? The overwhelming response was that social media is having a profound ill effect on students in a number of ways, including: the prevalence of sexting, bullying online, stalking by jealous/controlling boy/girlfriends, and feelings of exclusion when pictures from a party or event show up online that a student was not invited to. These influences affect students' mental and physical health beyond what most people understand to be true. Snapchat, TikTok, and Instagram were the most often named apps that students use and that collaborators should be the most aware of and try to counter.

Favorite activities (or ones to avoid): Almost every respondent spoke about hands-on activities and slides/videos as being the most effective and memorable activities.

Would you invite {ABC} personnel back into your school/classroom to teach the SRAE program again? The unanimous answer was "Yes!" Many of the key informants had a long and rich relationship with the OAHCP collaborating organization and say that the arrival of their instructors is one of the most anticipated and appreciated events of the school year.

What else would you like me to know about the strengths, weaknesses, and suggestions for the future? Recommendations?

1) The problems associated with social media, cell phones and texting were consistently mentioned as the toughest problems to counter among today's youth.
2) The hiring and training practices of the collaborating organizations was noted as a definite strength.
3) Make sure that experienced instructors mentor the newer instructors, and that new instructors sit in on sessions taught by the very best instructors.
4) The "Success Sequence" topic is very important, but should be tailored so that children born out-of-wedlock do not feel shame
5) Bring back the hands-on activities that were lost due to Covid.
6) Find ways to involve parents in the teaching, such as homework where parents interact.
7) Emphasize love bombing as a red flag.

SUMMARY

The bottom line is that there was 100% approval rating from all 50 Key Informants…the only complaint is that they wanted a lot more! They said that OAHCP presenters are head and shoulders above other outside presenters. Their effectiveness comes from their ability to create a rapport with the students, their authenticity, passion, knowledge, and respect for the students.