



Assess >>>>

Building Resources

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Implementing an evidence-based program (EBP)¹ can help teens delay sexual activity. Many school districts, however, have limited resources to adopt and implement these programs.

This tip sheet will provide an overview of two strategies (seek funding and form partnerships) to help districts build these resources.

1) SEEK FUNDING

Several federal and state agencies fund initiatives related to the implementation of EBPs. Some examples include:

- **The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration for Children and Families**
 - <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/grants>
 - Offers federal programs that provide funding to state agencies/organizations
- **The U.S. HHS' Office of Population Affairs**
 - <https://opa.hhs.gov/grant-programs>
 - Offers federal programs that provide funding to state agencies/organizations
- **Texas Health and Human Services Commission**
 - <https://www.hhs.texas.gov/doing-business-hhs/provider-portals/health-services-providers/texas-abstinence-education-program>
 - Overview of the Texas Abstinence Education Program and related resources/contacts
 - <https://apps.hhs.texas.gov/pcs/rfa.cfm>
 - Offers funding opportunities for Texas agencies/organizations
- **Grants.gov**
 - <http://www.grants.gov/>
 - A centralized site where all federal grant opportunities are posted
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Adolescent and School Health**
 - <http://www.cdc.gov/healthyyouth/FOA>
 - Offers funding opportunities for state and local agencies/organizations

[1] Evidence-based programs have undergone peer review and rigorous evaluation through a randomized controlled trial or strong quasi-experimental design and have shown impact on behaviors.



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Private or non-profit organizations can also provide funding for teen pregnancy prevention or adolescent sexual health education initiatives.

2) FORM PARTNERSHIPS

Forming partnerships with outside organizations and/or agencies having similar goals is an excellent strategy to supplement limited district resources. This tip sheet provides information on assessing the need for a partnership and selecting/approaching a partnering organization/agency.

Is a partnership right for you?

Before selecting an EBP or other health program, it is important to conduct a needs and resource assessment to catalogue available materials and financial resources and to assess if your district can implement the selected program as intended. Below are a few points to consider; however, refer to the **iCHAMPSS Needs Assessments** for further guidance on conducting a needs and resource assessment:

- Do you have enough program materials (e.g., computers, printing paper, supplies) to implement the program as intended?
- Do you have enough trained staff to teach the program? If not, what resources are available to provide required training?
- Do you have enough time to teach the program without skipping or shortening lessons?
- Can your district afford the financial cost to implement the program?

If you answered ‘no’ to any of the above questions, then forming a partnership might be right for your district.

Considerations before choosing a partner

When deciding to form a partnership, keep the following questions in mind:

Probing Questions	Possible Answers
With whom do you want to partner?	Ex: An organization/agency with deep community connections, great financial resources, etc.
What do you want them to do?	Ex: They will provide community outreach, train teachers, etc.
What resources or assets can you provide?	Ex: Staff and teachers to facilitate program implementation, teaching space, communication with parents, etc.
What program outcomes will be affected?	Ex: The program will be disseminated to a larger group.
What will success look like?	Ex: All students will receive the curriculum as intended.

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What core message do you want to convey?	Ex: Sexual health education is a priority and required in order to address the issue of teen pregnancy.
What issues do you and the partnering agency anticipate?	Ex: Difficulty in scheduling meetings, difficulty in agreeing to a single targeted initiative.
Who are the key people that need to be involved in discussing the partnership?	Ex: The CEO/Directors of the organization/agency, District-Level Administrators.

The following table has examples of potential partners and their benefits.

Potential Partners	Benefits
Local health departments	State, county or city health departments may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide resources such as meeting spaces to hold parent information nights or to implement the program • Provide trained sexual health educators who are comfortable discussing sexual health topics • Provide information on teen friendly health clinics in your area • Provide statistics and data for completing community assessments
Non-profit community organizations	Local, state, or national non-profit or private organizations may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide districts with meeting spaces to hold parent information nights or to implement the program • Provide trained sexual health educators who are comfortable discussing sexual health topics • Provide professional training on adolescent sexual health for school staff, audio-visual equipment, computers, or other supplies needed for the program • Provide opportunities for students to participate in service-learning projects which are required by some programs
Institutions of higher education	Universities with faculty that have interest in adolescent sexual health may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information on the latest news and research regarding adolescent sexual health • Provide training on adolescent sexual health for school staff • Provide technical assistance on making program adaptations and conducting program evaluation • Provide opportunities to participate in grant-funded projects

Assessing the Partnership

Once you have been working with your partner, it is important to evaluate the partnership to see that it continues to provide mutual benefits in:

- Meeting district and partner agency needs and goals
- Maintaining teen/**youth-friendly services** and environment
- Sharing resources freely
- Providing open and equal communication
- Resolving conflicts in a timely and professional manner

Refer to the **iCHAMPSS Process Evaluation Report** for further guidance to identify areas that were successful and/or are in need of improvement within the partnership.