

Increasing Capacity for Reducing Bullying and Its Impact on the Lifecourse of Youth Involved

Statement of Task Phase I – Workshop

An ad hoc planning committee will plan and conduct a 2-day public workshop that highlights relevant information and knowledge that can inform a multi-disciplinary road map on next steps for the field of bullying prevention. Content areas that will be explored include the identification of conceptual models and interventions that have proven effective in decreasing bullying and the antecedents to bullying, while increasing protective factors which mitigate the negative health impact of bullying. Key sectors that are involved in bullying prevention will be identified in order to understand the opportunities and barriers to implementing a blueprint for bullying prevention. An individually authored workshop summary will be prepared based on the information gathered and the discussions held during the workshop session. The workshop will feature invited presentations and discussions that address the following questions:

- What is the underlying knowledge base and conceptual models that guide the design, delivery, and evaluation of bullying prevention and intervention efforts?
- Are there specific interventions that are effective in decreasing bullying and the antecedents to bullying?
- What programs designed to address other negative adolescent behaviors (e.g. substance abuse, delinquency, etc.) are also effective at preventing or reducing bullying?
- Are there specific models and interventions that increase protective factors and mitigate negative health impact of bullying?
- What are the key sectors involved in bullying prevention and intervention? How does involvement or lack of involvement by key sectors influence opportunities and barriers to implementing a blueprint for bullying prevention and intervention? What are some appropriate roles for each of the key sectors in preventing bullying?

This activity constitutes Phase 1 of a three-part effort directed towards examining, analyzing, and synthesizing information and knowledge about policy, education, and behavioral strategies aimed at decreasing bullying behavior.

Statement of Task Phase 2 – Consensus Study
(Contingent upon the availability of additional funding)

An ad hoc committee will conduct a study and prepare a report on the state of the science and policies related to bullying prevention. The study will constitute Phase 2 of a three-part effort, following the completion in Phase 1 of a workshop entitled “Increasing Capacity for Reducing Bullying and Its Impact on the Lifecourse of Youth Involved”. The committee will review the available literature on bullying prevention and consider the following questions:

- What research exists to inform policies at the federal and state level that aim to address bullying prevention to improve the health, safety, and well-being of children and youth?
- What gaps remain in the research to fully inform policies and practices on the ground?
- What are the appropriate federal and state roles in supporting bullying prevention activities?

Based on currently available evidence, the report will include findings on all the above and provide recommendations to specific agencies and organizations (governmental and non-governmental) for future research and policy efforts to support bullying prevention initiatives that are likely to result in improved health, safety, and well-being of children and youth. The report will also inform institutions serving youth, policymakers, and other stakeholders. Recommendations will be geared toward public and private research funding agencies, legislatures, and institutions.

Statement of Task Phase 3 – Communications
(Contingent upon the availability of additional funding)

The final phase of the initiative will focus on the development of creative and innovative strategies for disseminating important information, synthesized from each phase of the initiative, about bullying prevention to a variety of stakeholder audiences.