

Communities that Care City of Fountain, CO

Mayor Gabriel Ortega

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Designing for Extremes and Communities that Care

What is Communities that Care (CTC)?

- Developed by Dr. J. David Hawkins and Dr. Richard Catalano of the University of Washington's Social Development Research Group in Seattle, (CTC) is a way for community members to work together to efficiently and effectively promote positive youth development and prevent adolescent problem behaviors. **A rigorous scientific trial demonstrated that young people from CTC communities were 25% to 33% less likely to have health and behavior problems than those from control communities.**
- The system builds local capacity to choose and implement tested and effective programs, policies and practices that address **risks** and strengthen **protection** against behavioral health problems (*ie: substance use, delinquency, school dropout, violence, depression and anxiety*)



Timeline

- In 2016, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) marijuana education program, authorized in statute to support local prevention programs, received marijuana tax funds to implement local youth substance abuse prevention activities using the CTC planning framework
- El Paso County Public Health (EPCPH) received a 5-year grant from CDPHE to implement the CTC model for youth substance use reduction.
- In late 2016, the City of Fountain and Ft. Carson were approached to implement the CTC system the community has many of the key characteristics needed for successful implementation:
 - Demonstrated history of community collaboration through the 20+ year partnership of *Fountain Community Services*
 - Previous successful partnerships with County Health.
 - Participation in the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey by Fountain Ft. Carson School District 8 (D8)



Timeline (cont.)

- In January 2017, the CTC initiative expanded to include Widefield School District 3, and ***Fountain Valley Communities That Care (FV-CTC)*** was established. The FV-CTC completed a **data analysis** to prioritize community-specific risk factors related to youth substance abuse, violence, and mental health on which to focus its prevention efforts, as well as protective factors that could buffer these risks.
- In 2018, FV-CTC took over facilitation of Fountain Community Services and completed a **resource assessment** to determine what programs, policies and practices were already in place that impacted prioritized factors, to identify gaps, and recommend strategies for implementation.
- 2019 – FV-CTC strategy teams created **implementation and evaluation plans** for three strategies focused on building public support for quality childcare, *increasing community spaces for young people*, and expansion of the KidPower program.



Decision Factors in Partnering with Communities that Care

- Are we the right organization to address the concern or design the program?
 - Does it sync with our Strategic Plan and fall into our mission?
 - Is there another organization that's better suited to design the program?
 - Are we better as a supporting partner?
- How does this solution, focused on youth, benefit the greater good?
 - It takes a community to raise a child.
- People-centric
 - Population served and does it positively or negatively impact other populations?
 - Intergenerational impacts?



Next Steps

2020

- Implementation of activities to support strategies
- Seeking additional funding opportunities to sustain the work
- Analysis of 2019 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey data
- Ongoing assistance with Fountain Recreation Facility
- Applying for the next 5-year grant from CDPHE to continue support of the FV-CTC coalition
- End-of-year process evaluation of strategy implementation

