

## CAPP Networking Session: Engaging Parents in Community Efforts

Challenges	Successes/Solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents’ Busy Schedules – finding the right time</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent workshops before the start of each EBP cycle</li> <li>• Use ½ hour workshops</li> <li>• Generate an email list</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low turn-out/No turn-out (worst turn-out among high-school youths’ parents; parents with middle-school aged youth are slightly more receptive)</li> <li>• More agency staff attend than parents</li> <li>• Cannot get the same parents back</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with the parent coordinator at the school</li> <li>• Find already established parent groups</li> <li>• Utilize a block of time at PTA meetings</li> <li>• Involve youth in outreach; have the youth reach out to their friends’ parents;</li> <li>• Publicity: convince institutions (schools) of the benefit of your parent engagement efforts and they may take the lead in organizing it</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No interest in the topics that we are funded for</li> <li>• Stigma around the subject</li> <li>• Parents don’t want to be told ‘how to parent’</li> <li>• Many were teen parents themselves and feel threatened</li> <li>• Getting parents on the same page – as partners</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not advertise that the meeting is about sex education</li> <li>• Have a series of parent education workshops, starting with topics important to them and then branching out (long-term)</li> <li>• Find out what the parents want to talk/learn about</li> <li>• Don’t jump in with the pregnancy prevention agenda</li> <li>• “How to keep your child safe in a tech world” is our best attended workshop”</li> <li>• Need a captive introduction topic</li> <li>• Think culturally</li> <li>• Strengths-Based Approach: Speak ‘healthy’ not ‘normal’; ‘preparing for motherhood’ not ‘pregnancy prevention’</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not allowed to use incentives</li> <li>• People are incentive driven (learned this through health fairs where people only stop by your table to ‘see what you have,’ i.e. food)</li> <li>• No funding for the parents</li> <li>• CAPP restricts ‘parents’ to ‘CAPP youth parents’ not ‘parents in the community broadly’</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent workshops led by youth</li> <li>• Youth voice: youth explaining wants/needs from own perspective and showcasing their skills - more impactful coming from parent’s youth</li> <li>• Parent-Child Retreat led by the youth</li> </ul>

When working with a community listen to their specific needs and ‘meet them where they are’

It is important to understand:

- Historical Underpinnings (i.e. past trauma)
- External Factors (i.e. racism, poverty)
- Cultural Norms