

SDFS Program Overview -- Four of Principles of Effectiveness:

Principle 1: Program based on a thorough assessment of objective data:

- Yearly School/District Incident Reports
- School Disciplinary Records
- Surveys- Statewide, Local Communities
- Kids Count
- Treatment Providers
- Dept of Law Enforcement
- Dept of Health & Welfare
- District Health Departments
- County Juvenile Correction Offices

Key informants: In a comprehensive needs assessment, it is useful to obtain perceptions of knowledgeable people such as key school, law enforcement, juvenile courts, health and social services personnel as well as parents, youth development staff, and key political leaders. These sources may be particularly useful in helping to understand and interpret statistical and other objective data –**key informant data cannot substitute for objective survey and archival data**

To guide the program planning process, the information needs to be more closely examined and synthesized. In the case of information about drug use, analysis of various pieces of data can help identify patterns which have programmatic implications.

Principle 2: With assistance of district advisory council, establish a set of measurable goals and objectives and design its programs to meet those goals and objectives

District Advisory Council – must be established, with **mandatory parent representation**, and membership should include to the greatest extent possible, individuals such as teachers, students, representatives of state and local governments, business persons, medical professionals, law enforcement, community based organizations and others.

Goals:

- Goals define the overall direction of the program and state what is to be accomplished.
- A goal is a measurable statement of desired longer-term, global impact of the prevention program

Objectives:

- Establish Objectives which are Measurable
- Objectives is a specific, measurable statement of the desired immediate or direct outcome of the prevention program which supports accomplishment of a goal.
- They reflect the more immediate or direct effects a prevention program is intended to achieve. Objectives address changes in participant performance/behavior that occur as a result of specific prevention activities.

Principle 3: Design and implement activities based on research or evaluation that provides evidence that the strategies used prevent or reduce drug use, violence, or disruptive behavior.

- Effective programs are research-based and have consistently produced positive results as reported in the literature on substance abuse, violence and disruptive behavior prevention
- Science-based refers to a process by which findings are derived or knowledge is gained through the scientific method

Risk and Protective Factors

Principle 4: Report and Use Findings of Evaluation To Strengthen Program

- Year-end performance (outcomes) using the results of the measurable goals and objectives of the program as the base.