

Staying Away From Drift: Ethics for the Prevention Professional

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For training use only.

Training Objectives

- Define ethics and related terms
- Describe the six principles in the Prevention Code of Ethics
- Use an ethical decision-making process to apply the Prevention Code of Ethics

Your Expectations

At the end of the day, how will you know that this training has been worthwhile?



Group Guidelines



- Take turns speaking
- Participate fully
- Be open and respectful
- ELMO
- Save email, etc. for breaks
- Be punctual after breaks
- Respect confidentiality

Ethics in Prevention

Introduction to Ethics

What comes to mind...



... when you think of ethics in prevention?

Ethics Defined

Values



Principles



Ethics

Deeply held ideals, convictions, and principles influenced by culture, region, etc.

Reflect the moral values of an individual or group about right and wrong conduct

Agreed-upon codes
of
behavior based
on distinct sets
of principles

Prevention Code of Ethics

The **six principles** are:

- Non-Discrimination
- Competence
- Integrity
- Nature of Services
- Confidentiality
- Ethical Obligations for Community and Society



Activity: What Are Your Values?

Examples

Accountability

Achievement

Courtesy

Equity

Family First

Honesty

Loyalty

Prosperity

Reliability

Tolerance

Which are MOST important?

Which are LEAST important?

Understanding Values

Values can be **complementary**.

Values can compete or conflict.



Activity: Which Value?

Amy has the opportunity to apply for a new position that will advance her career. However, when she learns that her friend Tina is going for the same position, she decides not to pursue it for fear of jeopardizing their friendship.

Which value?

Accountability Achievement Family First Loyalty

Understanding Unethical Behavior

Commission



When you say or do something that is unethical

Omission



Failing to take action when you see something unethical happen

Activity: Commission or Omission?

Situation 1

The prevention training manual you created includes images and pictures that you found on the Internet, but you didn't obtain permission to use them.

Situation 2

When reviewing your colleague's slide presentation, you notice that he did not credit the sources of his data—but you don't say anything to him about this.

Why a Code of Ethics?

To help prevention professionals...

- Respond appropriately to ethical dilemmas
- Make sound and respectful choices each day
- Create a climate of respect
- Protect those involved in and served by prevention activities





Ethics in Prevention

Prevention Code of Ethics

Principle 1: Non-Discrimination

Prevention Code of Ethics

- 1. Non-Discrimination
- 2. Competence
- 3. Integrity
- 4. Nature of Services
- 5. Confidentiality
- 6. Ethical Obligations for Community and Society







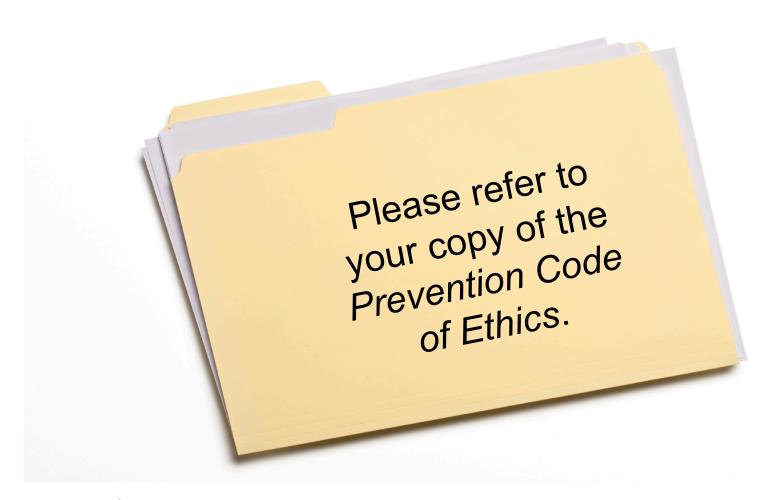




What Do You Think?



What Is the Non-Discrimination Principle?



The Non-Discrimination Principle: Key Concepts

- Avoiding/preventing discrimination
- Complying with anti-discrimination laws and regulations
- Promoting cultural competence

Understanding Discrimination

Discrimination refers to the unfair or unequal treatment of an individual or group based on certain characteristics.



A prevention professional...

...instructs program staff to exclude a potential participant from an upcoming program because it would be hard to accommodate his disability in planned activities.

2

A prevention professional...

...decides to only accept applicants for the youth leadership retreat who are free of piercings and tattoos.

7

A prevention professional...

...informs a female employee who complained about sexist jokes at the office that she cannot attend an upcoming training because staff members now feel uncomfortable around her.

2

A prevention professional...

...decides to only assign program roles to agency volunteers who have completed a cultural sensitivity training.

A prevention professional...

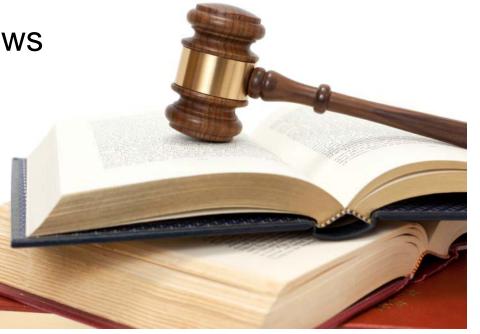
...asks two youth task force members to wait in the other room during a task force meeting while adult members finish discussing one of the agenda items.

Anti-Discrimination Laws and Regulations

Federal laws

State and jurisdictional laws

Agency policies



Understanding Cultural Competence

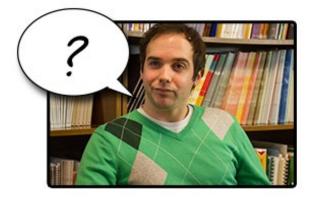


The ability of an individual or organization to interact effectively with members of diverse population groups

Remember This?

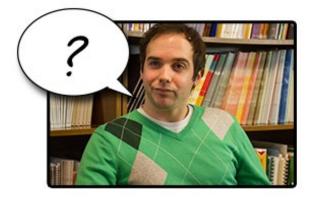


Kyle should...



- Agree to hold the awards ceremony in the donated banquet hall since his agency director and board of directors support this plan.
- Refuse the offer of the donated banquet hall since transportation will be a challenge for many participants and the group already agreed to hold the event in the agency gym.
- Insist on checking with participants as to whether the banquet hall is an acceptable alternative, even if taking the time to do so means risking the loss of the facility and disappointing his agency director and board of directors.
- Only agree to hold the awards ceremony in the donated banquet hall if the agency can provide free transportation to the event.

Kyle should...



- Agree to hold the awards ceremony in the donated banquet hall since his agency director and board of directors support this plan.
- Refuse the offer of the donated banquet hall since transportation will be a challenge for many participants and the group already agreed to hold the event in the agency gym.
- Insist on checking with participants as to whether the banquet hall is an acceptable alternative, even if taking the time to do so means risking the loss of the facility and disappointing his agency director and board of directors.
- Only agree to hold the awards ceremony in the donated banquet hall if the agency can provide free transportation to the event.

The Non-Discrimination Principle: Key Concepts

- Avoiding/preventing discrimination
- Complying with anti-discrimination laws and regulations
- Promoting cultural competence

The Non-Discrimination Principle: Looking Back & Moving Forward

- Do you have any questions?
- What did you learn or relearn?
- Write an action you plan to take based on this principle.



Principle 2: Competence

Prevention Code of Ethics

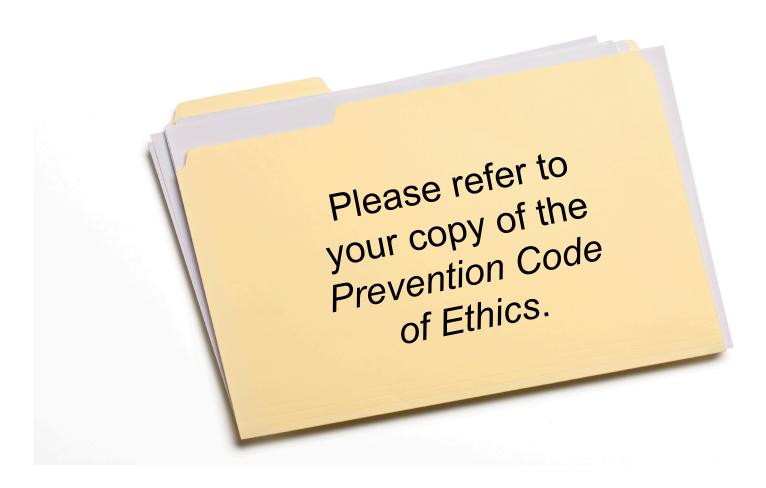
- 1. Non-Discrimination
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How Do You Feel About Driving...



What Is the Competence Principle?



The Competence Principle: Key Concepts

- Assessing your qualifications
- Building your knowledge and skills
- Using best prevention practices
- Addressing personal impairment
- Addressing the unethical conduct of colleagues

Assessing Your Qualifications

Alignment with job description

 Familiarity with population and setting



 Familiarity with culture of broader community



 Relevant training and experience



Building Your Knowledge and Skills

How do you grow as a prevention professional?



Supervision and Mentoring



Professional Development

Using Best Prevention Practices

- A data-driven and collaborative strategic planning process
- Evidence-based programs and strategies that are a good match for your community



Continual monitoring and improvement of prevention processes and outcomes

Recognizing and Addressing Personal Impairment



Prevention professionals must report the unethical conduct of colleagues to funding, regulatory, or other appropriate bodies.











Does your agency have a policy?





These policies are established to support employees and ensure a consistent response.

Does your agency have a policy?





Use your best judgment:

- Talk to your colleague.
- Talk to your supervisor.
- Report the behavior.
- Help establish a policy.

The Competence Principle: Key Concepts

- Assessing your qualifications
- Building your knowledge and skills
- Using best prevention practices
- Addressing personal impairment
- Addressing the unethical conduct of colleagues

The Competence Principle: Looking Back & Moving Forward

- Do you have any questions?
- What did you learn or relearn?
- Write one action do you plan to take based on this principle.



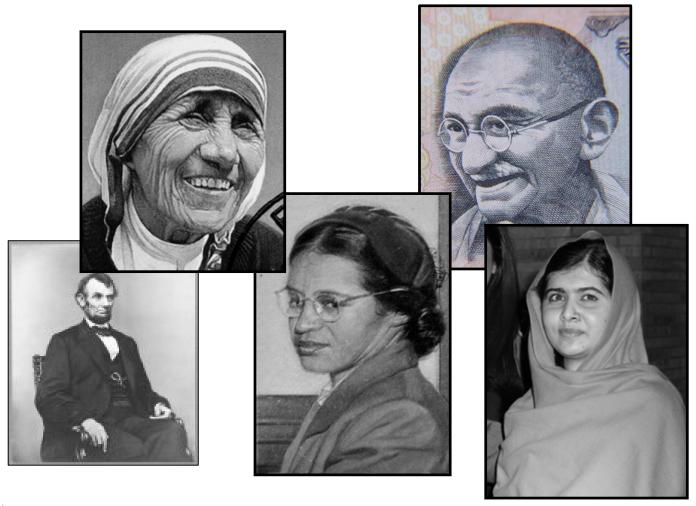
Principle 3: Integrity

Prevention Code of Ethics

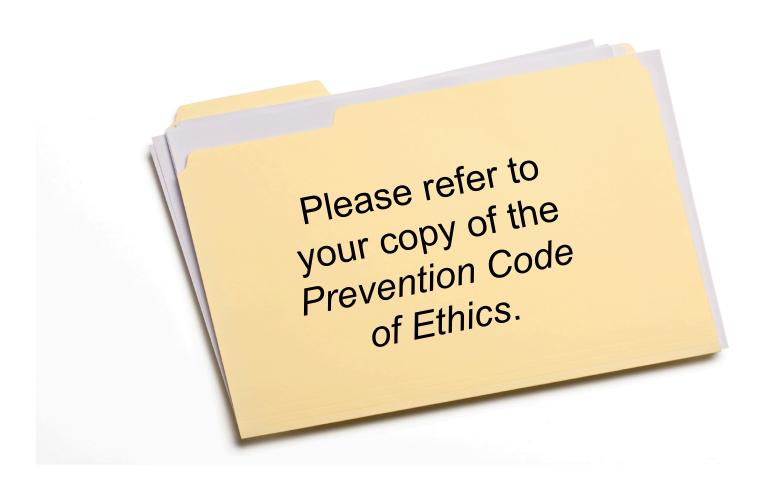
- 1. Non-Discrimination
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People of Integrity



What Is the Integrity Principle?



The Integrity Principle: Key Concepts

- Providing accurate information
- Giving credit for ideas, information, and materials
- Avoiding deception
- Supporting impaired colleagues and service recipients

Providing Accurate Information

Everything you produce and present must be accurate, truthful, and reliable. This is not always easy.

What if...

Exaggerating data could increase the likelihood that your program would receive funding?

A colleague showed you the "perfect" statistic for your presentation, but didn't know the source?

Giving Credit: Copyright Laws

- Protect the authors/creators of original work
- Apply to materials that are not your own or your agency's



 Apply even when using materials, information, and ideas for educational purposes

What Does This Have to Do With You?

Do you ever...



...include information, ideas, or data that are not your own or your agency's in anything you produce?

What Does This Have to Do With You?

Do you ever...



...include images such as charts, graphs, photos, artwork, or graphics that are not your own or your agency's in anything you produce?

What Does This Have to Do With You?

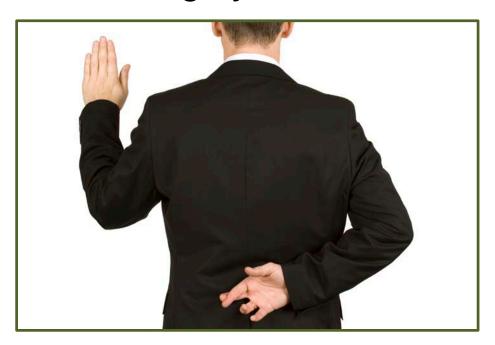
Do you ever...



... include the actual text or adapt material from a source that is not your own or your agency's?

Avoiding Deception

"Integrity cannot accommodate deceit."



Deception involves misleading others or trying to make them believe something that is not true.

Showing Support



"Where there is evidence of impairment in a colleague or a service recipient, prevention professionals should be supportive of assistance or treatment."

The Integrity Principle: Key Concepts

- Providing accurate information
- Giving credit for ideas, information, and materials
- Avoiding deception
- Supporting impaired colleagues and service recipients

The Integrity Principle: Looking Back & Moving Forward

- Do you have any questions?
- What did you learn or relearn?
- Write one action do you plan to take based on this principle.



Principle 4: Nature of Services

Prevention Code of Ethics

- Non-Discrimination
- 2. Competence
- 3. Integrity
- 4. Nature of Services
- 5. Confidentiality
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Above All, Do No Harm



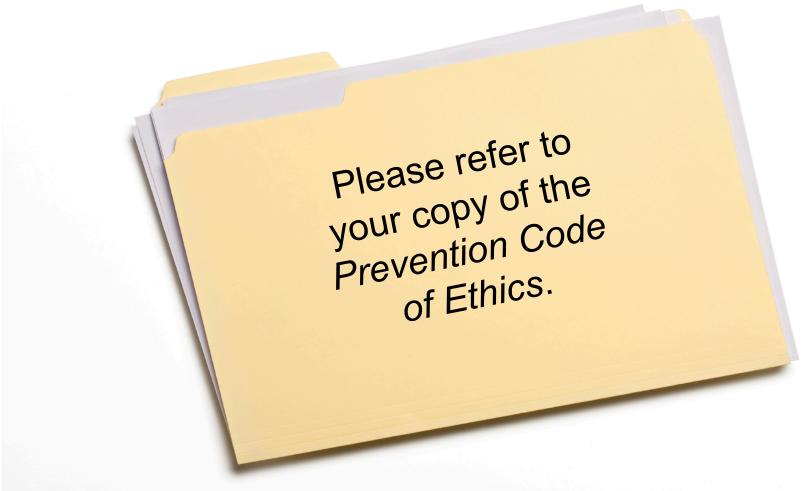
Above All, Do No Harm

Small group activity:

- What does this statement mean?
- To what professions does it apply?
- How does it apply to prevention?



What Is the Nature of Services Principle?



The Nature of Services Principle: Key Concepts

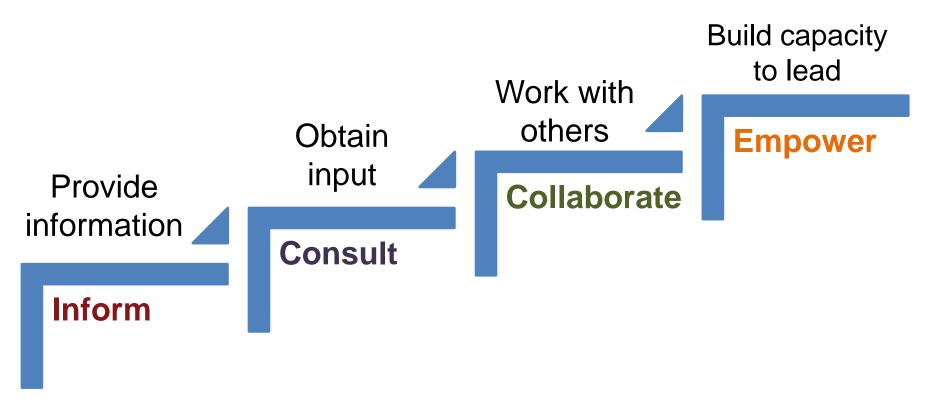
- Involving the focus population
- Protecting participants from harm
- Maintaining appropriate boundaries

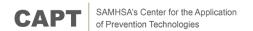
Involving the Focus Population



Nothing
About Us
Without Us

Promoting Community Participation







Protecting Participants

- Obtaining informed consent
- Conducting background checks
- Reporting abuse and neglect



Obtaining Informed Consent

Information



Describe the research activity in detail

Comprehension



Present information in a way people can understand

Voluntariness



Make sure that people consent willingly

Active and Passive Consent

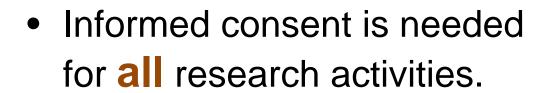
ACTIVE CONSENT

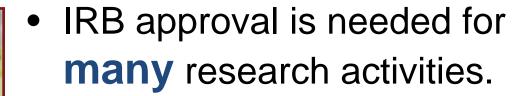
Obtain signatures from all research participants and/or their legal representatives

PASSIVE CONSENT

Obtain signatures only from individuals who do not agree to participate and/or their legal representatives

Protecting Research Participants





 Consult partners with research expertise.





Conducting Background Checks

Who?

- All staff
- All volunteers

Why?

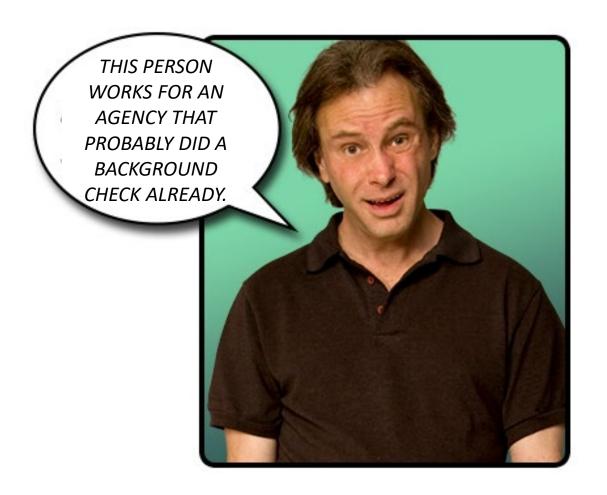
- Protect participants
- Mitigate risk



Why People May Hesitate



Why People May Hesitate



Why People May Hesitate



The Three Ps of Background Checks



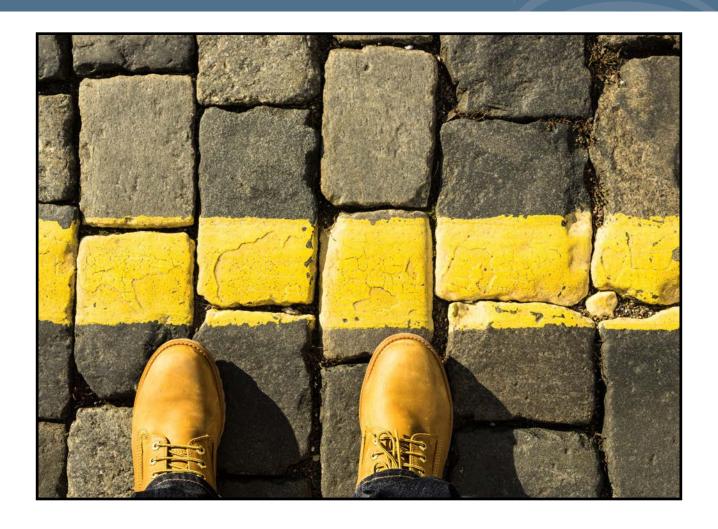
A **protocol** for how your agency will conduct background checks

A **plan** for how to manage and make use of the results

Reporting Abuse and Neglect



Maintaining Appropriate Boundaries



A prevention professional...



...loans a member of her parenting skills group money to pay for a cell phone so she can communicate with other group members.

A prevention professional...



...who also works as a math tutor markets his tutoring services to participants of his youth program and their parents.

A prevention professional...



...asks an appreciative member of her mentoring program for help painting her house.

A prevention professional...



...invites a well-spoken youth participant from her media advocacy program to speak at an upcoming task force meeting.

A prevention professional...



...begins dating a current participant in a high school peer leadership program.

The Nature of Services Principle: Key Concepts

- Involving the focus population
- Protecting participants from harm
- Maintaining appropriate boundaries

The Nature of Services Principle: Looking Back & Moving Forward

- Do you have any questions?
- What did you learn or relearn?
- Write one action do you plan to take based on this principle.





Principle 5: Confidentiality

Prevention Code of Ethics

- 1. Non-Discrimination
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Let's Begin with a Story...

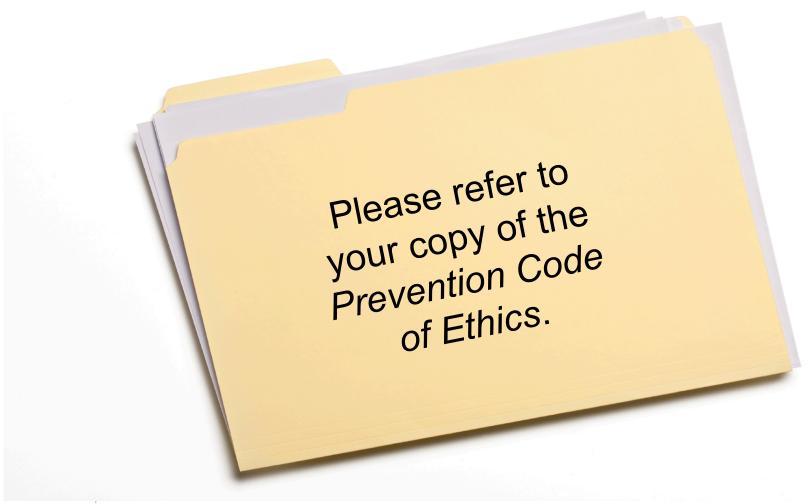




What Do You Think?



What Is the Confidentiality Principle?

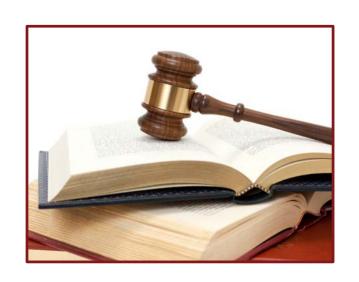


The Confidentiality Principle: Key Concepts

- Complying with confidentiality laws and regulations
- Protecting confidential information from disclosure
- Releasing confidential information

Confidentiality Laws and Regulations

- Federal laws
- State and jurisdictional laws
- Agency policies



When laws and regulations are inconsistent...

...the stricter law always applies.

Federal Law 42 CFR Part 2

This is the most rigorous federal confidentiality law for substance abuse professionals.

It applies to both:

Treatment

AND

Prevention



Who Must Comply?

- Paid full- and part-time employees
- Prevention staff
- Clinical staff



- Volunteers
- Student interns
- Contracted service providers
- Former staff members



Defining Confidential Information

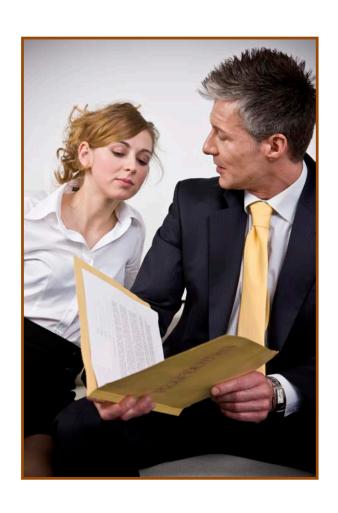
Information about an individual's substance use behavior

Information that identifies an individual as a participant in a program for substance users



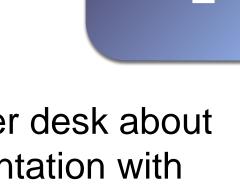


Defining Disclosure



The act of revealing information to others that they don't already know.

A prevention professional...



...accidentally leaves notes on her desk about a program participant's experimentation with marijuana that a colleague ends up reading.

A prevention professional...



...shared the percentage of program participants who tried marijuana in the last month with a local researcher who studies substance use.

A prevention professional...



...shares with a concerned counselor the family contact information from the file of a participant in a program for early substance users.

A prevention professional...



...shares with the middle school secretary a participant list for a life skills program serving all 7th and 8th grade classes to confirm that it is up-to-date.

Safeguarding Confidential Information

Then

You collect information about the substance use behavior of program participants in *any form...*

You need to know how to PROTECT
THESE
RECORDS.

Protecting Participant Records

- Develop written procedures regulating access to confidential records.
- 2. Communicate procedures to participants in writing before a program begins.
- 3. Keep confidential records in a **secure** location.
- Delete or destroy confidential records once a program ends.

Releasing Confidential Information

Prevention professionals may release confidential information:

When a participant provides written consent

OR

Under specific extenuating circumstances

Releasing Confidential Information with Consent

- Can release when

 a participant or
 legal guardian
 signs a legally valid
 consent form
- Form must include all of the elements required by law



Releasing Confidential Information without Consent

Internal
Program
Communications

Court Orders and Criminal Investigations

Abuse and Neglect

Crimes
Involving the
Program

Health-Related Emergencies Research, Evaluation, and Audits

Remember This?



Susan should...



- Tell Juanita that she can't answer that question in a public place, but she could meet later to discuss the matter.
- Tell Juanita that she can't share information about any of the youth in her program.
- Share any information that she has about Ethan with Juanita since they are both professionals in the same agency working with the same youth.
- Say that she can't tell Juanita about Ethan's substance use behavior, but their agency director can.

Susan should...



- Tell Juanita that she can't answer that question in a public place, but she could meet later to discuss the matter.
- Tell Juanita that she can't share information about any of the youth in her program.
- Share any information that she has about Ethan with Juanita since they are both professionals in the same agency working with the same youth.
- Say that she can't tell Juanita about Ethan's substance use behavior, but their agency director can.

The Confidentiality Principle: Key Concepts

- Complying with confidentiality laws and regulations
- Protecting confidential information from disclosure
- Releasing confidential information with and without consent

The Confidentiality Principle: Looking Back & Moving Forward

- Do you have any questions?
- What did you learn or relearn?
- Write one action do you plan to take based on this principle.



Principle 6: Ethical Obligations for Community and Society

Prevention Code of Ethics

- 1. Non-Discrimination
- 2. Competence
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Talking the Talk, Walking the Walk



What Is the Ethical Obligations Principle?



The Ethical Obligations Principle: Key Concepts

- Advocating for prevention
- Protecting the health of others
- Promoting your own wellness

Advocating for Programs, Policies, and Services

Advocacy = Taking action to support an idea or cause

People advocate to:

Raise awareness

Increase understanding of key issues

Mobilize support to create positive change



Have You Ever...

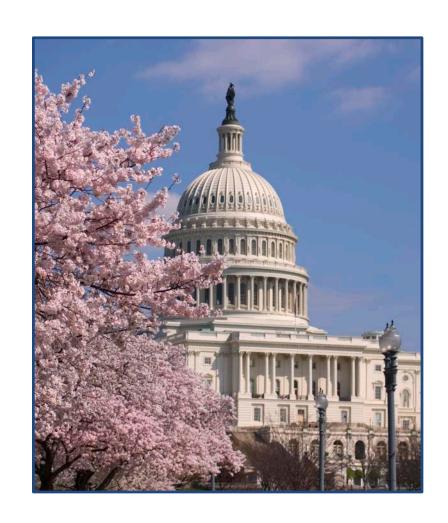


- Discussed a prevention issue in public?
- Provided information on a prevention issue?
- Responded to a public official's request for information or testimony?
- Explained prevention-related laws or policies?
- Created prevention-related fact sheets?

Understanding Lobbying

Lobbying is a type of advocacy that attempts to influence specific legislation.

Educating the public and/or legislators on a specific issue is not considered lobbying.



Avoiding Lobbying

- Cautioned against any and all lobbying
- Responsible for knowing funding and agency policies
- Encouraged to educate decision-makers and the public



Protecting the Health of Others



Imagine you are on a plane, 30,000 feet in the air. The person sitting next to you is a physician.

Suddenly, a man six rows back has a heart attack.

The doctor is on vacation.

Should she try to help?

Walking the Walk of Wellness



Eight Dimensions of Wellness







The Ethical Obligations Principle: Key Concepts

- Advocating for prevention
- Protecting the health of others
- Promoting your own wellness

The Ethical Obligations Principle: Looking Back & Moving Forward

- Do you have any questions?
- What did you learn or relearn?
- Write one action do you plan to take based on this principle.





Ethical Decision-Making Process

Acting Ethically

It is your responsibility to act in ways that are consistent with the Prevention Code of Ethics.



Sometimes this is clear.

Sometimes it is not.

An ethical decision-making process can help.

When to Use the Process

When a number of values are at stake and...



... there seems

to be no single

best response

AND/ OR



OR

... there is a recognized difference of opinion



... people don't feel good about the circumstances or possible resolution

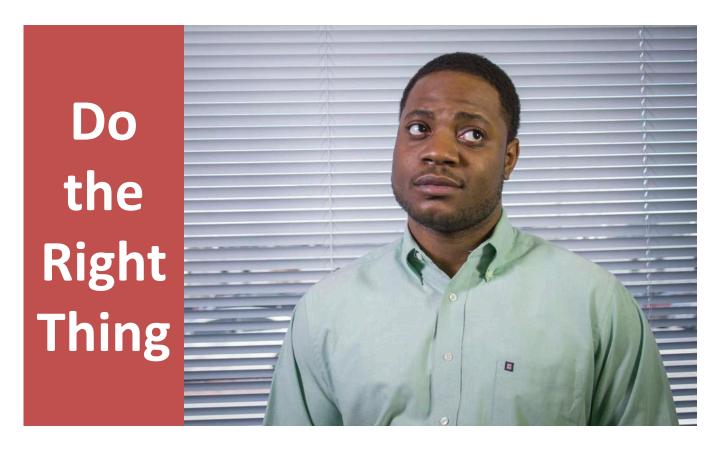
The Process

The ethical decision-making process includes:

Step 1: Step 2: Step 3: Step 4:

Assess Plan Implement Evaluate

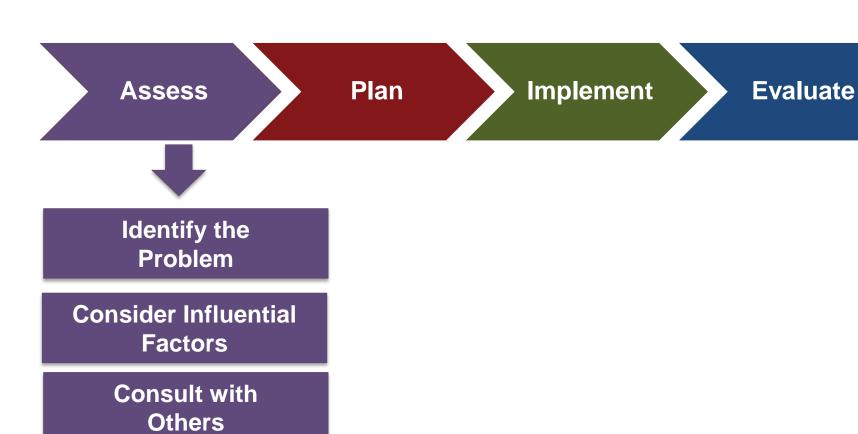
The Scenario



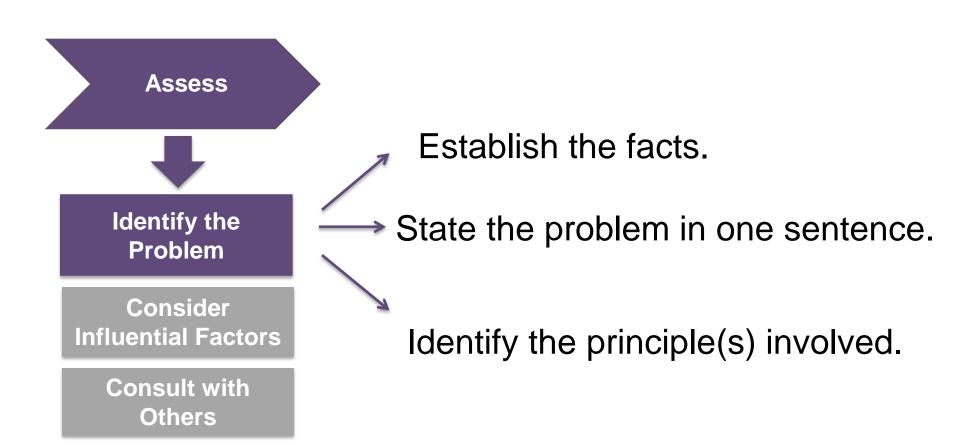




Step 1: Assess



Step 1: Assess – Identify the Problem



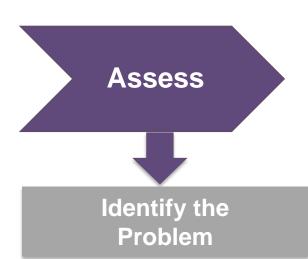
Step 1: Assess – Consider Influential Factors

Assess **Identify the Problem Consider Influential Factors Consult with Others**

Internal factors (e.g., your own values)

External factors (e.g., other perspectives)

Step 1: Assess – Consult with Others

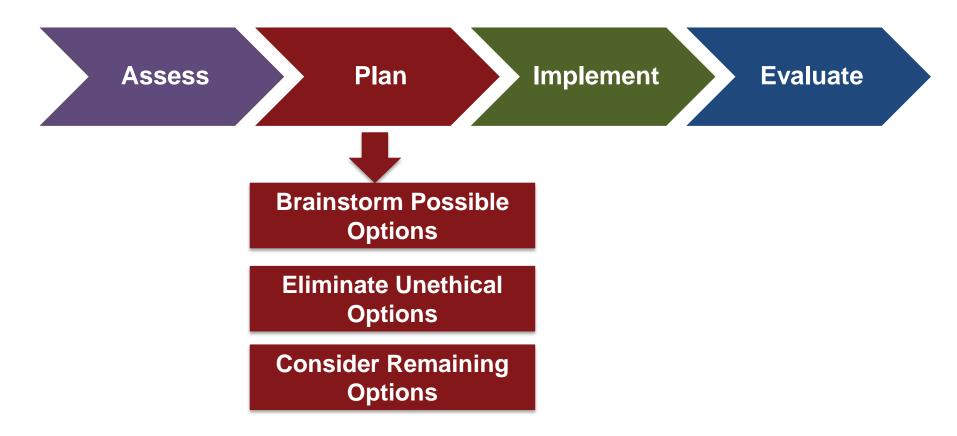


Consider Influential Factors

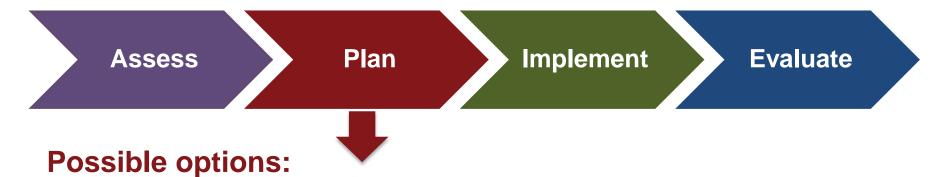
Consult with Others

People with more knowledge about, or experience with, the issues involved

Step 2: Plan



Step 2: Plan – Brainstorm Options



- Do nothing
- Release the evaluation results to school anonymously
- Suggest that school officials request evaluation results
- Quit job to avoid dealing with the situation
- Tell executive director about this dilemma

Step 2: Plan – Eliminate Options

Assess Plan Implement Evaluate

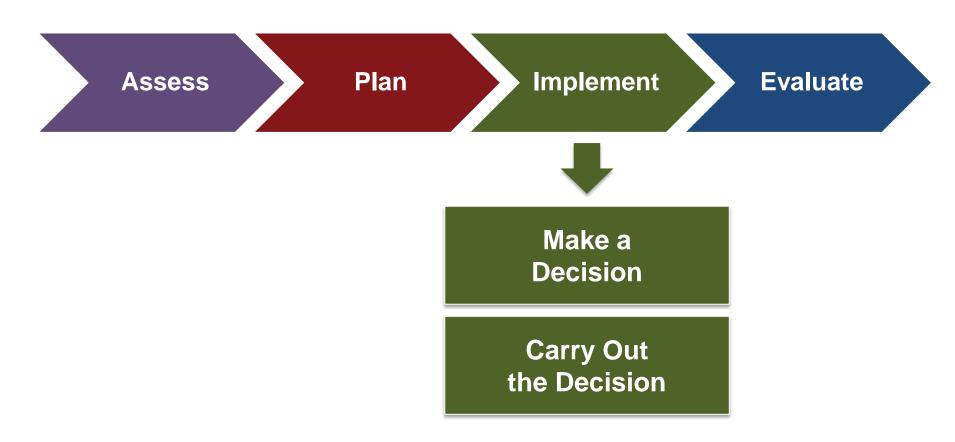
Possible options:

- Do nothing
- Release the evaluation results to school anonymously
- Suggest that school officials request evaluation results
- Quit job to avoid dealing with the situation
- Tell executive director about this dilemma

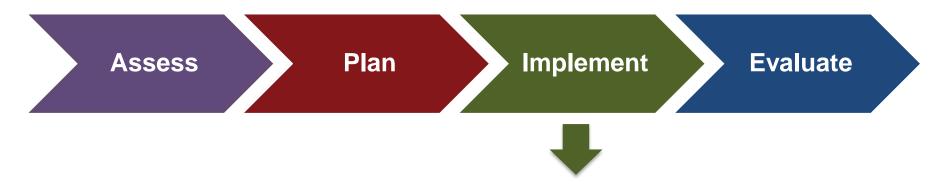
Step 2: Plan – Consider Remaining Options

Evaluate Implement Assess Plan **Pros** Cons **Remaining options:** Release the evaluation results to school anonymously Suggest that school officials request evaluation results Tell executive director about this dilemma

Step 3: Implement



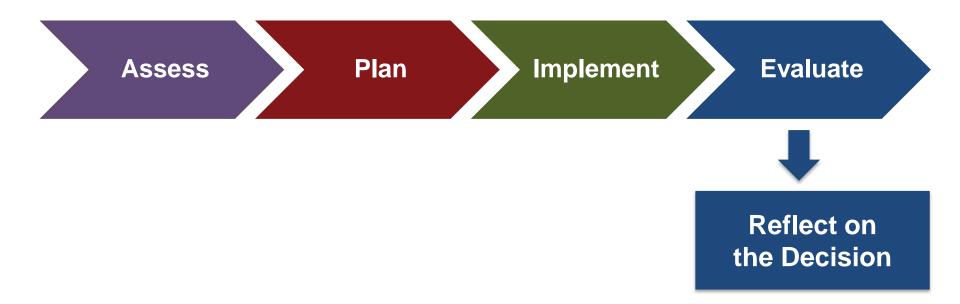
Step 3: Implement



Which decision would you have made?

- Release evaluation results to the school anonymously
- Suggest that school officials request the evaluation results
- Tell executive director about this dilemma

Step 4: Evaluate



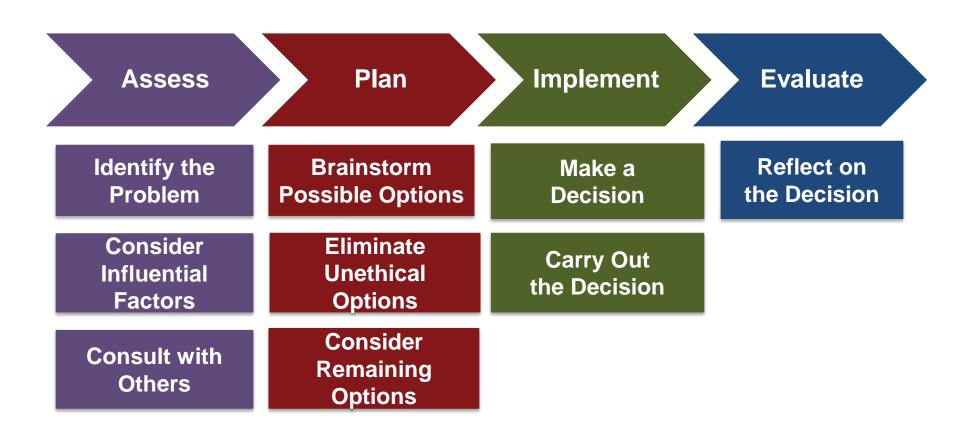
Step 4: Evaluate

Evaluate Implement Assess Plan

Ask yourself:

- What was the outcome of the decision?
- What worked well?
- What would you do differently?
- Should anything more be done?

Decision-Making Process: Review



Small Group Activity: Your Turn!

Each small group will:

- Consider an ethical dilemma
- Work through the decisionmaking process



 Share key points about the dilemma, group discussion, and final decision



Ethical Decision-Making Process: Looking Back & Moving Forward

- Do you have any questions about this process?
- In what ways did it surprise or challenge you?
- What are some benefits of using this process?
- Why base decisions on the Prevention Code of Ethics?

Training Objectives

- Define ethics and related terms
- Describe the six principles in the Prevention Code of Ethics
- Use an ethical decision-making process to apply the Prevention Code of Ethics

To Learn More...

- Ethics in Action
 Scenarios
- Resources and Links
- Final questions



THANK YOU!

