Connecting Prevention Strategies Across Violence and Abuse

In 2016/2017, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a series of technical packages focused on preventing different forms of violence. These technical packages focus on preventing: Intimate Partner Violence, Suicide, Youth Violence, Sexual Violence, and Child Abuse and Neglect. The technical packages recommend research-based strategies to prevent the different forms of violence. All five technical packages share examples of prevention work that fit into five overlapping strategies. Regardless of which strategies we implement, the work overlaps and impacts the prevention of all five forms of violence. This handout looks at just some of those overlapping strategies to help us better identify how we can all work together.

Shared Strategies

1. **Promote Social Norms that Protect Against Violence**
   - Bystander intervention approaches
   - Change social norms to support parents and positive parenting
   - Mobilize men and boys as allies
   - Connect youth to caring adults and activities
   - Peer norm programs

2. **Teach Skills to Prevent Violence and Abuse**
   - Teach healthy, safe dating and intimate relationship skills to adolescents and/or couples
   - Enhance parenting skills to promote healthy child development
   - Social-emotional learning programs
   - Universal school-based programs
   - Parenting skill and family relationship approaches

3. **Provide Opportunities to Empower and Support**
   - Strengthening leadership and opportunities for girls
   - Strengthen work-family supports: Family-friendly work policies
   - Strengthening economic supports for women and families
   - Strengthening household financial security

4. **Create Protective Environments**
   - Modifying the physical and social environments of neighborhoods
   - Establishing and consistently applying workplace policies
   - Improve school climate, safety, and monitoring
   - Reduce exposure to community-level risks
   - Strengthening outreach and community norm change

5. **Support Victims/Survivors to Increase Safety and Lessen Harms**
   - Victim-centered services to lessen harms and prevent future risk: patient-centered approaches, housing programs, first responder/civil legal protections, etc.
   - Treatment for at-risk children, youth, & families to prevent problem behavior and later involvement in violence
   - Strengthen access and delivery of care
   - Provide quality care and education early in life
   - Safe reporting options and messaging

---