



Respected. Nurtured. Protected.

Essential Collaborations:

Successfully Implementing Relationship Education with
Underserved Students



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Webinar Information

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Relationship Skills for Teens and Young Adults

CHARLIE AND HELEN DIBBLE





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Resources for Teaching Relationship Skills

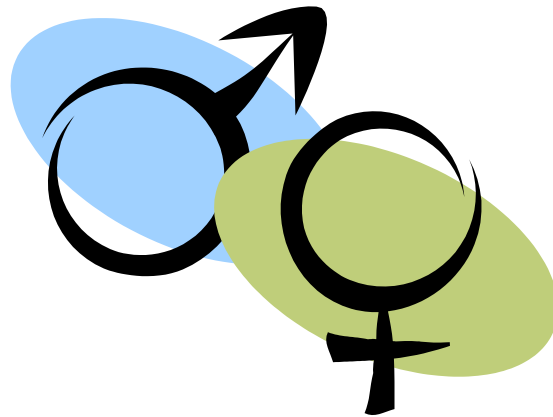
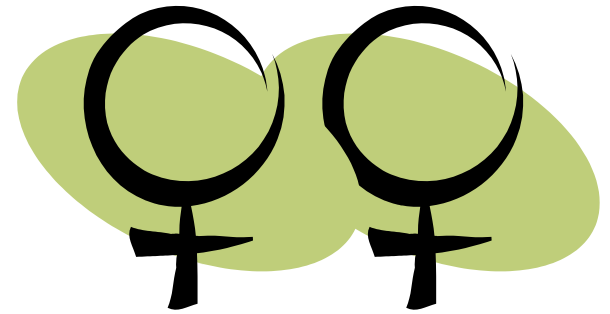
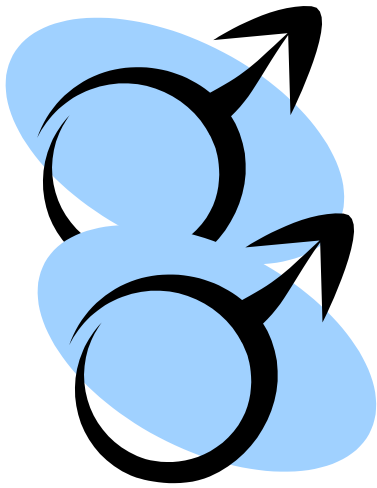
The Dibble Institute believes in research.



The Dibble Institute
believes in stable, healthy families.



The Dibble Institute believes
all people deserve respect.





Angelica Edwards, LMSW



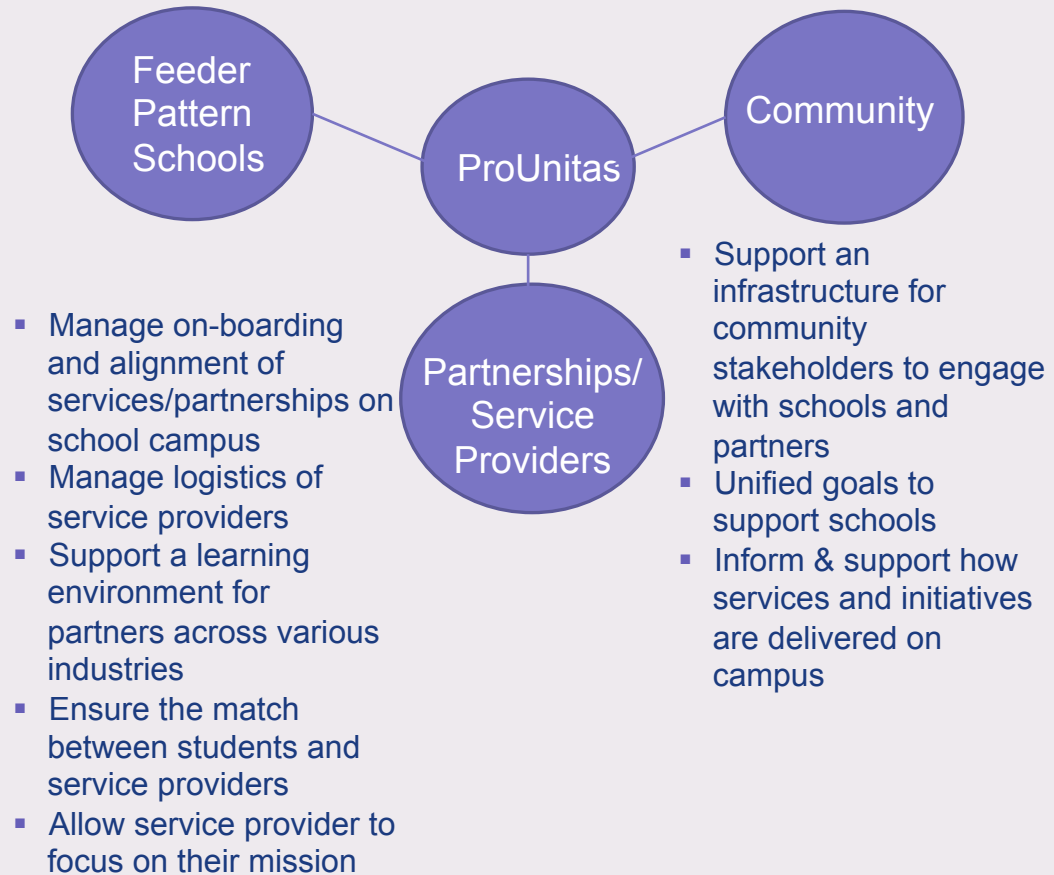
Amanda Siroosian, MPH





Mission: To facilitate the effective entry, coordination and implementation of existing educational, health and social services for underserved communities.

- Provide on ground coordination and technical support to service providers
- Address the needs of every child through a robust early warning and monitoring system
- Create an environment that allows schools to focus on instruction
- Work in feeder pattern, all elementary, middle and high schools within an attendance zone
- Efficient student connection to services





- Houston-based non-profit
- Focus: Prevention through education
- Envisions a community where all children are respected, protected, and nurtured
- Trains school personnel to teach curricula in:
 - *Stand Strong • Stay Safe: personal safety*
 - *Relationship Smarts PLUS: healthy relationships*
 - *Parents Under Construction: parenting prep*
 - *Build to Nurture: social and emotional learning*

History with Relationship Smarts PLUS (LRQ+)

- ChildBuilders began using LRQ+ in 2006
- Funding through Administration for Children and Families
- 600 to 1000 students were served each year
- Delivered in public, private, faith-based, and charter schools
- Continue to seek funding and train school personnel

Collaboration Success Factors

- Like-minded group interested in systems change
- Dedicated to long-term solution
- Commitment, flexibility, and passion
- Focus on whole child
- Willingness to share resources
- Strong presence in the community

Kashmere Community

- Lowest SES in the city of Houston
 - Median income less than \$25,000 a year
 - More than 1/3 live below the poverty line
- Infant mortality rate is three times the rate in Houston
- Lack of mental health providers
- No Boys/Girls Club or YMCA

Kashmere Community

Kashmere Feeder Pattern Schools

- Lack adequate city/community partnership
- High principal and staff turn-over rates
- Extremely high rate of suspension due to behavior problems
- High truancy and drop-out rates
- One of the lowest performing high schools in Texas

Need for LRQ+ in Kashmere Community

- Lack of healthy relationship role-models
- Parental avoidance to discuss this topic
- 25% of infants are born to mothers ages 10-19
 - *Evidence of pregnancy in sixth grade*
- Extremely high rates of STD and HIV compared to the rest of Houston
- Absence of relationship education programs in schools

Implementation Challenges

1. Funding
2. Buy-in and rapport
3. Staff
4. Isolated programming



Funding Challenges

- Program training and materials
- Schools don't have resources
- District doesn't have resources
- ChildBuilders is dependent on competitive grants



Collaboration

- Funding trends are moving towards innovative collaborations
- Able to tap into larger pools of funding
 - For example: ProUnitas secured BridgeUp at Menninger Magic Grant funds

Buy-In and Rapport Challenges

- School district
- Principal approval
- School personnel
- Community
- Students
- Parents



Collaboration

- Housed in the community
- Individual staff assigned to each campus
- Parental involvement encouraged
- Engagement in the Community Council
- Multi-year project with multiple partners
- Solid long-term plan



Staff Challenges

- Training
 - Social and emotional
 - Mental health
 - Classroom management
 - Discipline
- Time constraints
- Student recruitment
- Teacher retention



Collaboration

- Credentials
- Focus on social and emotional learning
- Availability for training
- Student recruitment
- Rapport with students
- Program scheduling
- Parental involvement

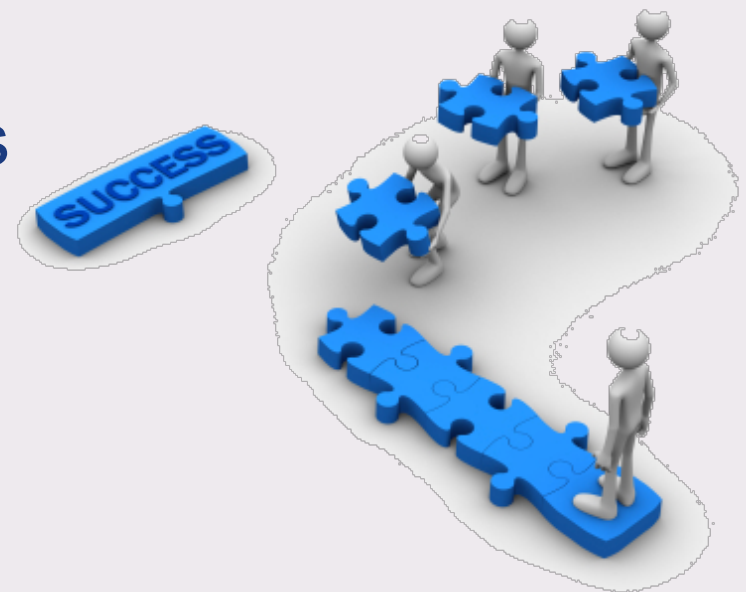
Isolated Programming Challenges

- Ineffective
- Short-term solution
- Not sustainable



Collaboration

- Systems change
- Multi-year
- Multi-disciplinary partners
- Focus on whole child
- ChildBuilders programs



Action Items

Seek agencies that are:

- Like-minded
- Committed to long-term impact
- Willing to share resources
- Prepared to put children first

“Relationship Smarts PLUS should be in every school.”

~ LRQ+ participant in Texas



Q & A





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