

#### Taking Prevention to the Next Stage: Linking Research to Practice – The Universal Prevention Curriculum

Zili Sloboda, Sc.D. National Prevention Network Conference Bridging Research to Practice Chicago August 27-29, 2019



#### Advances in the Science of Prevention over the last 10 years

- Term 'science of prevention' in literature in 1993 (Coie, J.D., Watt, N.F., West, S.G. et al.)
- Establishment of the U. S. and EU Society for Prevention Research in 1991 and 2010
- Standards for the Science of Prevention in 2011
- European Quality Standards for Prevention in 2010 (EMCDDA)
- International Standards on Drug Use Prevention in 2012 (UNODC)
- Universal Prevention Curriculum in 2013-2017 (APSI and U.S. Department of State)



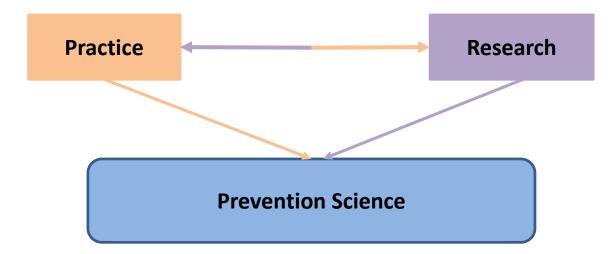
#### **Defining Prevention Science**

- Prevention science:
  - Identifies:
    - the determinants of behaviors that protect or put at risk the social, emotional, and physical health of individuals, families, communities;
    - the processes as to how these determinants operate; and,
    - the strategies that effectively intervene when trajectories are negative and reinforce those trajectories that are positive.
  - Is multi-disciplinary including the epidemiological, social, psychological, behavioral, medical, statistical, and neurobiological sciences

Sources: Standards of Knowledge for the Science of Prevention, Society for Prevention Research, 2011; APSI, 2019; National Prevention Science Coalition, 2019.



#### **Prevention Science**—**Practice and Research**





### Prevention Science: Why Is It Important to Prevention Professionals?

- Prevention science provides the knowledge regarding:
  - <u>Who is affected by the behavior</u> of interest and what are their characteristics (e.g., gender, age, geographic location)
  - O Who is vulnerable and what makes them vulnerable?
  - <u>What are the consequences</u> of these behaviors over time?
  - <u>How do you intervene effectively</u> with the individual or the environment to reduce the risk of initiation or continuation of these behaviors?



## **Prevention Professionals**



#### Where are Our Substance Use Prevention Professionals?





## Prevention Interventions Are Often Invisible!

- They may be called something else: e.g., parenting education, school policies on substance use, laws regarding age restrictions on access to tobacco or alcohol
- They may be called prevention but are 'hidden' within an organization: e.g., schoolbased substance use prevention curriculum, substance use as part of a workplace wellness program



#### **Substance Use Prevention Professionals**

- May have other titles and other types of training such as education, social work, health education, nursing, law enforcement
- May not consider themselves prevention professionals



#### **Four Groups of Prevention Professionals**

- Prevention Professionals 'on the ground' — Coordinators/decision makers/supervisors
  - Implementers
- Professionals from various disciplines who implement prevention programming but do not identify as prevention professionals
- New prevention professionals to the field
- Students



#### **Professionals in Any Field Share:**

Knowledge Skills Competencies Integrity Ethics



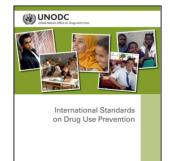
#### Prevention Knowledge, Skills, Competencies, Integrity, Ethics

- International Standards for Drug Use Prevention
- International Certification & Reciprocity

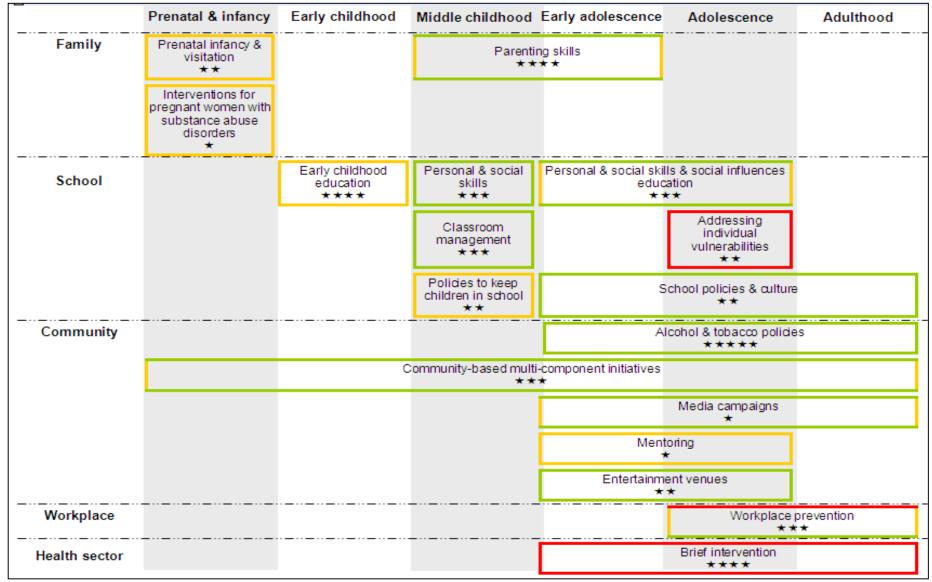








#### Summary Including an Indication of Efficacy Applied Prevention Science International





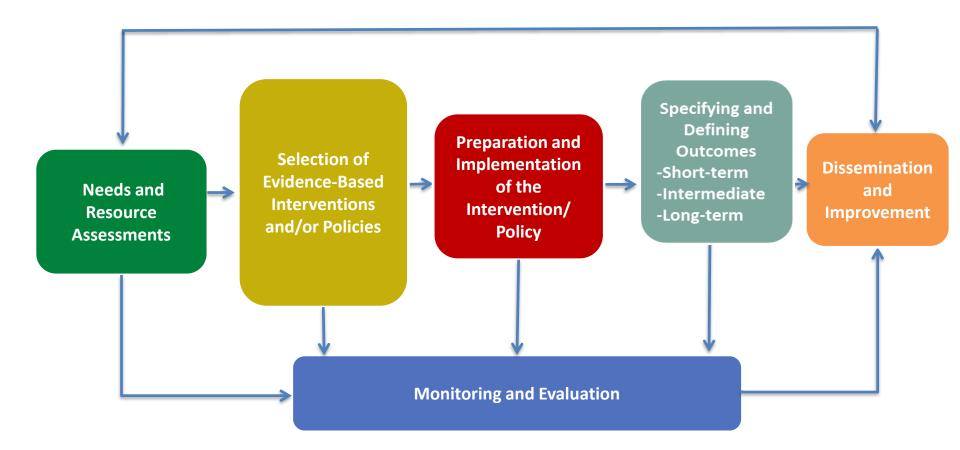
#### **IC&RC Domains**

- 1. Planning and Evaluation
- 2. Prevention Education and Service Delivery
- 3. Communication
- 4. Community Organization
- 5. Public Policy and Environmental Change
- 6. Professional Growth and Responsibility

# Applied Prevention Science International UPC-COO

DOMAIN 1: PLANNING & EVALUATION			
TASK		UPC-COORDINATORS	UPC-IMPLEMENTERS
1.	Determine community readiness for change	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 9- Community	Core; 1-M&E 7-Community
2.	Identify methods for collecting data for px planning	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 9- Community	Core; 1-M&E 7-Community
3.	Identify existing resources for community needs	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 9- Community	Core; 1-M&E 7-Community
4.	Identify gaps in resources based on community conditions	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 9- Community	Core; 1-M&E 7-Community
5.	Identify the target audience	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community
6.	Identify factors that place target audience at risk.	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community
7.	Identify factors that provide protection to the target audience	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community
8. asses	Determine priorities based on comprehensive community sment	1-Introduction; 9-Community	Core; 7-Community
9. Develop a prevention plan based on research the theory that addresses needs and outcomes		1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community
10. meet	Select prevention strategies, programs, and best practices to community needs	1-Introduction; 3-M & E; 4-Family; 5- School; 6-Workplace; 7-Environment; 8-Media; 9-Community	Core; 1-M&E 2-Family; 3- School; 4-Workplace; 5- Environment; 6-Media; 7- Community

## **European Drug Prevention Quality Standards:** Implementation Cycle: The Basic Components



Brotherhood, A., Sumnall, H.R., et al. (2011). European drug prevention quality standards: A manual for prevention professionals. 17 Lisbon, Portugal: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction



- The Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC) draws from:
  - Prevention Science and Prevention Research,
  - IC&RC Tasks/Activities, and,
  - European Drug Prevention Quality Standards

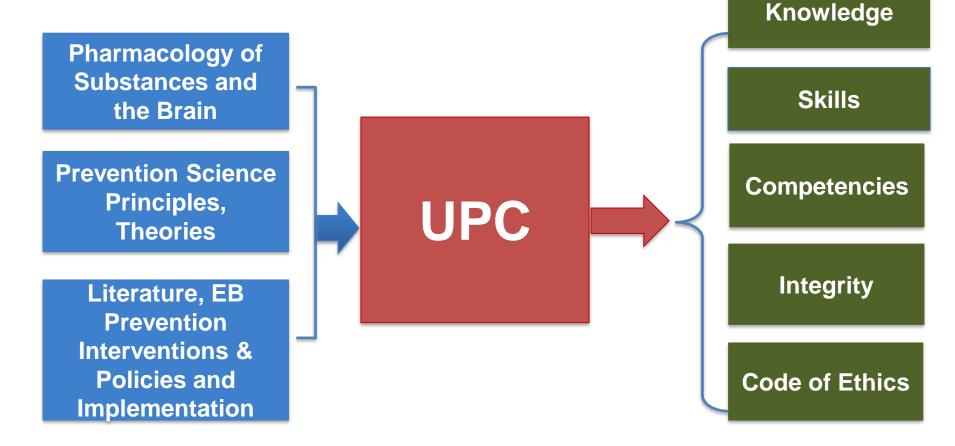


#### **Purposes of Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC)**

- Meet the current demand for an evidence-based curriculum for substance use prevention professionals-researchers, practitioners, policy makers
- Provide a curriculum for those professionals who may not 'label' themselves substance use prevention professionals but who are providing substance use prevention services
- Ensure that regionally- and nationally-based prevention professionals obtain consistent science-based-information and skills training
- Building an international prevention capacity through training, professionalizing, and expanding the substance use prevention workforce



#### Adapting Science to Practice: Learning EB Prevention





#### UPC Series for the Coordinator and Implementer

There are two UPC Series:

- UPC Coordinator Series is designed for prevention coordinators and decision-makers
- UPC Implementer Series is designed for prevention professionals who provide/deliver the evidence-based prevention interventions and policies



#### **Key Elements of the UPC-Series**

- Introduction to prevention science and application to prevention interventions
- Physiology and pharmacology of psychoactive substance use
- Uniform definition of prevention—UNODC
- Evidence-based prevention and the International Standards on Drug Use Prevention
- Prevention science as the foundation for UPC
- Critical themes (review in later slide)
- Implementation Cycle (adapted from EMCDDA EDQSP)

**Applied Prevention Science International** 

## UPC Coordinator and Implementer Series Courses (1/2)

- Introduction to Prevention Science
- Physiology and Pharmacology for Prevention Specialists
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Family-Based Prevention Interventions
- School-Based Prevention Intervention
- Workplace-Based Prevention Intervention
- Environmental Prevention Interventions
- Media-Based Prevention Interventions
- Community-Based Implementation Systems



#### UPC Coordinator and Implementer Series Courses (2/2)

- Coordinator Series-4-5 days-Knowledge-Focused
- Implementer Series-6-15 days-Translation of Knowledge into Skills with Practica



#### **UPC Helps Prevention Professionals to:**

- Speak with one voice about evidence-based prevention interventions and policies
- Support comprehensive, integrated evidencebased prevention and policies that are APPROPRIATE for their communities, and,
- Plan, implement, monitor, and sustain these evidence-based prevention interventions and policies



# Thank you zili.sloboda@apsintl.org