North Central Massachusetts Community Health Improvement Plan: Healthy and Safe Relationships Priority Area

What is CHNA 9?

Mission Statement
CHNA 9 brings together and supports diverse voices to promote health equity in our communities.

What is a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP)?
A CHIP is a broad, action-oriented strategic plan to improve the health of the community, based on the needs identified by Community Health Assessments. The North Central CHIP is based on the 2012 and 2015 Community Health Assessments conducted for the region.

Healthy and Safe Relationships Priority Area
The Healthy and Safe Relationships priority area of the North Central CHIP was established in response to high rates of domestic violence and child abuse and neglect. The goal of the priority area is to improve and sustain the safety and overall security of the region’s children, families, and individuals. The group plans to develop a Healthy Relationships curriculum and resource guide that is:
- Evidence-based
- All-inclusive
- Interdisciplinary
- Culturally competent

Identification of Existing Curricula
A literature search revealed a wide variety of evidence-based programming effective for the prevention of violence and promotion of healthy relationships, including:
- Nurse Family Partnership
- The Incredible Years
- Safe Dates
- Air Force Suicide Prevention Program
- Good Behavior Game
- Coaching Boys into Men
- Green Dot
- Bringing in the Bystander

Next Steps
- Development of a survey for business and school leaders to identify existing need for healthy relationships trainings
- Continue development of community specific and culturally competent healthy relationships trainings for leaders in the community
- Provide connections to existing resources for community leaders

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