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Keys to Developing Sustainability

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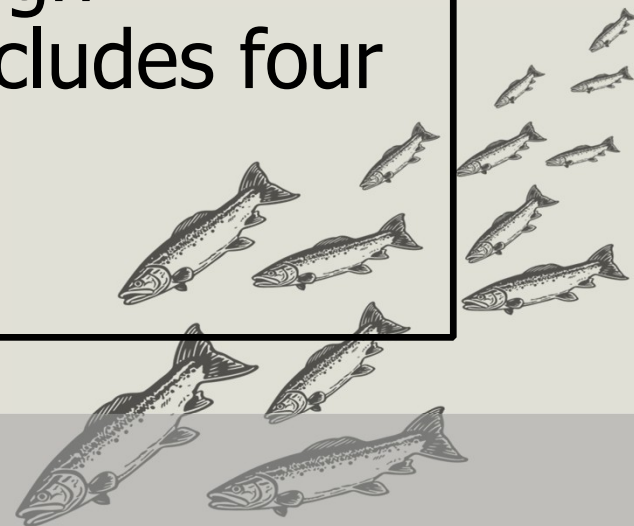
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Sustainability

The capacity of programs to develop and maintain necessary resources for successful continuation. It is about continuing program services over a long time period, and having the needed support to become a permanent part of community resources.

Sustainability Planning

- Ensures ongoing service delivery
- Begins at the conceptual stage
- Part of the initial program design
- Goal of a sustainability plan includes four primary components



Understanding Sustainability

To fully understand what sustainability means and looks like in prevention, it's important to explore each of the following:

- What communities must sustain in order to maintain positive outcomes
- How communities can sustain effective practices at the local level
- **Key elements that contribute to the success of local sustainability efforts**
- Characteristics of an effective sustainability planning process



Four Key Components

1) Effectiveness of Program Practices

2) Building Internal Capacity

3) Promoting Community Support

4) Continuous Program Evaluation



Ensuring Effective Practices



- Evidence of success
- Aligned with local priorities
- Tribal Best Practices
- Culturally Informed and Relevant
- Aligned with resources and readiness

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Internal Capacity



- Start with your team
- Identify strengths and skills
- Team's community connections
- Physical resources
- 1 minute Walmart speech



Community Support



- Create public awareness
- Enlist invested partners
- Offer options for involvement
- Invite community champions
- Publicize progress and success
- Celebrate accomplishments with community

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Continuous Program Evaluation

- Identify what is working
- Provide culturally informed data collection methodologies
- Invite invested community partners
- Share both process and outcome evaluation results with Tribal Leadership



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Takeaway Messages



It takes everyone—the community, key partners, and program champions— rowing in the same direction for communities to create a strong enough current to establish effective program practices and sustain them over time.



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Sustaining Success

**“Nothing about Us,
Without Us”**

