

Green Dot Evaluation Plan

Project Summary & Goals

Collaborative evaluation plan development with the Center for Women and Families (CWF) for Green Dot, a bystander violence intervention program. CWF partnered with a Jefferson County Public School to implement Green Dot, as the program has been linked to decreased violence in other secondary and post-secondary school environments; CWF wanted to explore the impact of the program on high school students who participate in the training component of the program. CWF partnered with a high school to train staff and students as ambassadors and change agents in order to cultivate an environment that is intolerant of violent behaviors. While Green Dot is associated with decreased violence in some school settings, the group's emphasis is on ensuring that Green Dot facilitates training and program components in ways that are culturally responsive to the specific implementation site, which includes ensuring youth insight and critique are prioritized during phases of planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Project Dates

May 2017 – August 2018

Principal Investigator(s)

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Communities and Partners Involved

Commonwealth Institute of Kentucky, The Center for Women and Families, and JCPS

Funders

The Center for Women and Families

Key Findings

CWF reported that pre-intervention focus groups yielded expressions of interest in the implementation of Green Dot from 50-60 staff members at a JCPS high school. However, CWF program youth did not feel that they have the support needed to facilitate an effective program in the school setting; they felt most comfortable facilitating similar work in their community settings.

During planning stages, a Green Dot training was held for students and the following information was captured during the debrief:

- Training space (size, setup, etc.) should comfortably accommodate participants
- Increased clarity and guidance from outset of training is essential
- Opportunities for student input needed before, during, and after trainings
- Messaging should be tailored/localized to the specific school
- Ensure sufficient time is allotted for students to obtain permission to attend training
- Ensure that training times accommodate target population's schedule

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Although not unanimous, there was thematic concern from JCPS staff, CWF staff, and evaluation design consultant regarding the cultural relevance and responsiveness of Green Dot. There were desires to change some of the training/program content and language, but CWF staff reported that funders emphasized program fidelity, which facilitated the perception that changes could not be facilitated.

- Suggestions: form a collective (including youth) to address cultural responsiveness and training/program modifications with funders and other key stakeholders

Center for Women and Families along with the JCPS school did not have the capacity to move forward with the planned project; on 8/24/18, CWF communicated to JCPS and CIK that they wouldn't be able to sponsor Green Dot, citing logistical factors.