

EVALUATION OF CONTENT AND TRAINING STRUCTURE OF “TEN STEPS TO CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS”

Authors: PREVNet (Legate, A; Sell, J; Cummings J; Craig W; and Pepler, D) / supported by a grant from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, Social Development and Partnership Program

BACKGROUND

“Ten Steps” is a resource of the Canadian Red Cross RespectED: Violence & Abuse Prevention program. “Ten Steps” enables organizations and communities to develop, implement and monitor concrete actions to prevent violence against children – physical, sexual, emotional and neglect.

This evaluation is one part of a multi-year Community of Practice which links researchers, graduate students and three Canadian national organizations with programming for children and youth. It aims to fill a gap in mobilizing current scientific knowledge and community based practice to foster healthy relationships and development for children and youth.

OBJECTIVE

To review existing training resources related to a) ensuring child safety and the organization’s duty of care, and b) the capacity of front line workers to promote healthy relationships.

The main strength of the “Ten Steps” resource is its systemic and ecological approach.

METHODOLOGY

DATA COLLECTION: The evaluation consisted of...

- meetings between the Red Cross and other agencies being reviewed and PREVNet’s Scientific Directors and staff
- interviews with Red Cross personnel
- a review of training content and structure

ANALYSIS: The content and structure was evaluated based on a checklist of evidence-based best practices identified by a working group led by PREVNet.

TIMEFRAME: April 2010 – May 2011

FINDINGS

Rating scale: 1) clearly needs improvement 2) adequate but can benefit from improvement 3) exemplary and requires no improvement

OVERARCHING EVIDENCE-BASED PRINCIPLES/INDICATORS	RATING
Training is consistent with current empirical knowledge	3
Training is consistent with a developmental perspective	3
Training is consistent with a relationship (systemic / ecological) perspective	3
Training is crafted to motivate trainees to take action to protect children and youth from interpersonal violence	3
Layout and design of the resources is engaging for the learner	2
Key messages are clear and well supported by examples	3
Resources meet the needs of adult learners	3
Lessons build logically upon one another so there is continuity of learning	3
Key messages are enhanced and reinforced at progressive stages (spiral messaging)	3
There are self-assessment strategies and tools for learners	3

Red Cross’ training process is exceptional in that it provides a training structure that is clearly understandable and supportive. It also takes great care to abide by the principles of adult learning, particularly by designing materials with multiple ways of knowing in mind.

