

# Fidelity Monitoring Tip Sheet

## Fidelity

The faithfulness with which a curriculum or program is implemented; that is, how well the program is implemented without compromising the program's core components.

## Core Components of an evidenced based program

The Characteristics that must be kept intact when the program is being replicated or adapted, in order for it to produce program outcomes similar to those demonstrated in the original evaluation research.

## Core components are separated into three categories:

### WHAT is being taught

- Knowledge, attitudes, values, behavior and skills that are addressed in the program's activities.
- "Adherence" – Whether the content is being delivered or the program is being implemented as it was designed or written.
- *Should have a mechanism in place for tracking the delivery of specific content.*
- Ex. Document that MRT, a cognitive behavioral curriculum that addresses criminal behavior, was delivered to all participants.

### HOW the content is taught

- Teaching methods, strategies and interactions that contribute to the program's effectiveness.
- "Quality of program delivery" – The manner in which a facilitator delivers/implements the program.
- For this component, fidelity monitoring includes the tracking of the interactive processes that are used to provide the information, such as class discussion, role-plays, modeling, etc.
- *Should have a mechanism in place for tracking a facilitator's credentials and skills in using the methods described in the program.*
- Ex. Document that probation officers delivering EPICS are up to date on certification and monitored by a qualified supervisor.

### LOGISTICS that are responsible for a conducive learning environment

- This includes the program setting, facilitator-participant ratio, dosage, sequence of sessions.
- "Dosage" – Number, frequency and length of sessions. Amount of material delivered in a session.
- Fidelity monitoring for this component may include "participant responsiveness," or the extent to which participants are engaged or satisfied with program activities or content.
- *Should have a mechanism in place for tracking dosage and collecting participant feedback.*
- Ex. Document that evidenced based curricula and interventions are delivered in a dosage commensurate with the best practice.
- Ex. Document that participants are regularly asked for their feedback about program quality and effectiveness.