



Introduction to CADCA's Problem Gambling Boot Camp

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The Premier Prevention Association



OUR MISSION



CADCA Equips Coalitions with Tools, Knowledge, and Support to Create Positive Change in Their Communities

OUR VISION



CADCA's Vision Is Safer,
Healthier, and Stronger
Communities Everywhere

OUR FOUNDING PRINCIPLE

At the core of CADCA's creation is the belief in the effectiveness and efficiency of local coalitions as catalysts for drug-free communities globally, combating substance misuse through the implementation of comprehensive strategies for Community Change.



OUR THREE PILLARS:

ADVOCACY

CADCA empowers members to advocate effectively for prevention within the complex landscape of public policy, ensuring their voices are heard amidst competing issues at all levels of government.



OUR THREE PILLARS:

TRAINING

Whether you're starting, joining, or enhancing your prevention efforts, CADCA offers a wealth of resources and training to bolster the effectiveness and sustainability of your community initiatives.



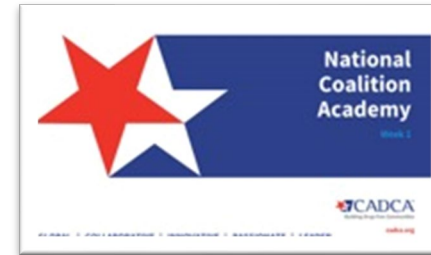
CADCA Training and Support



**CADCA
Web-based &
Print Resources**

training@cadca.org

**Training
Support**

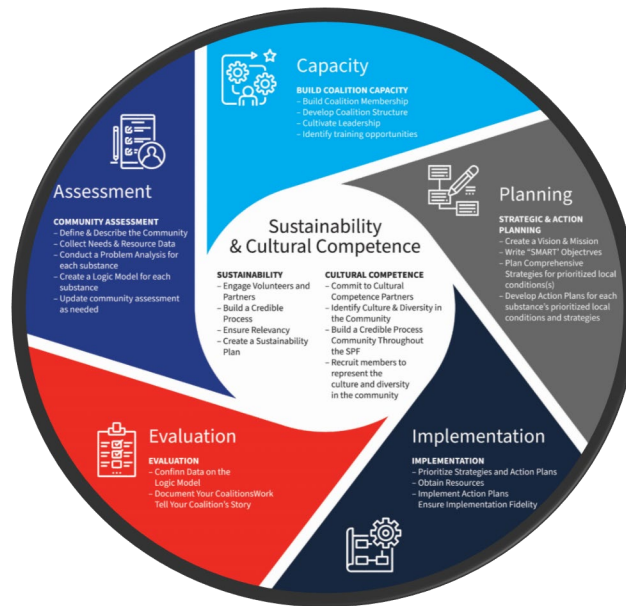


**Conferences,
Trainings &
Webinars**



**Customized
Trainings &
Services**

CADCA's Model for Community Change



CADCA'S SEVEN STRATEGIES for Community Change

1. Providing Information
2. Enhancing Skills
3. Providing Support

INDIVIDUAL

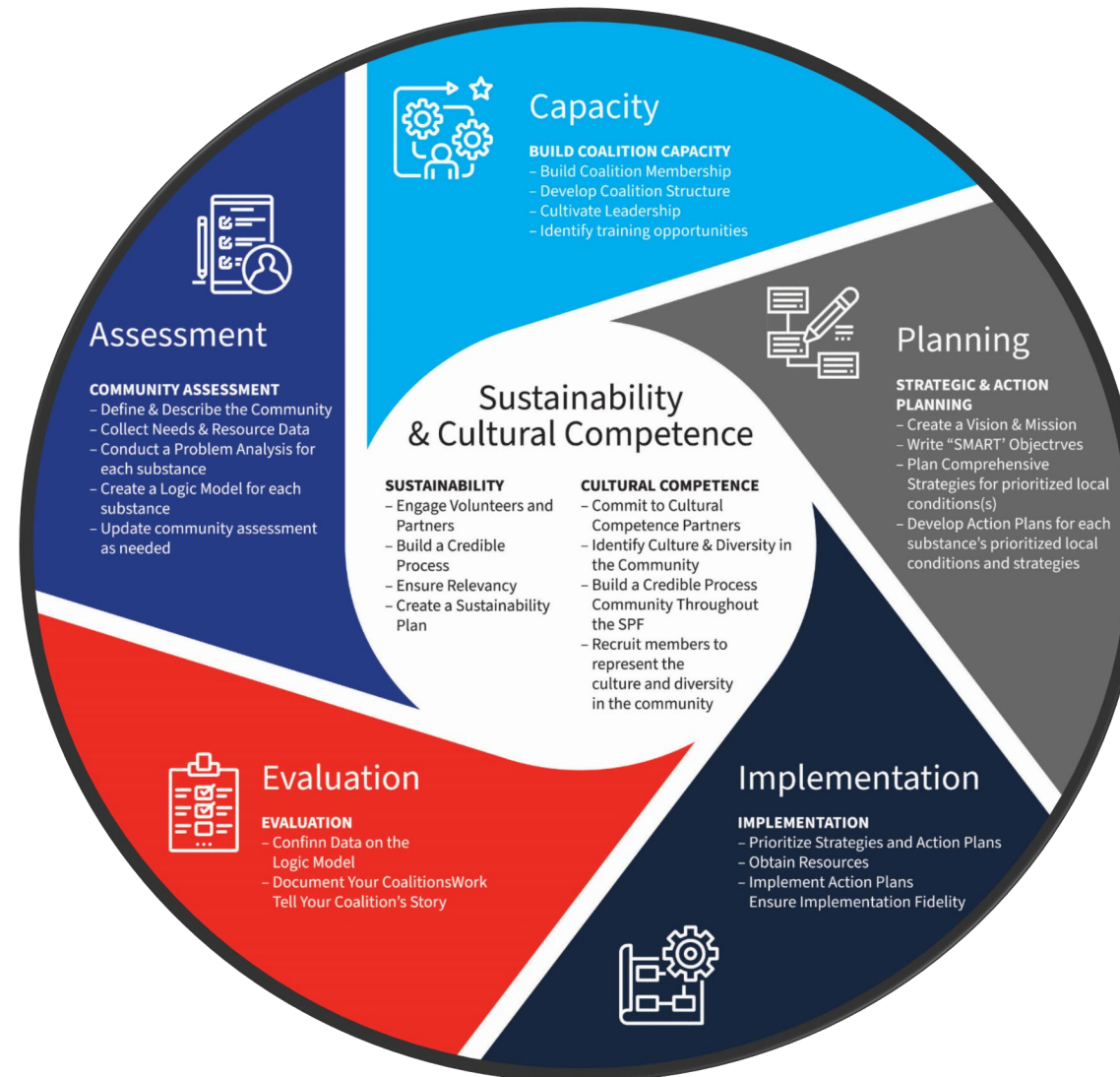
4. Enhancing Access/Reducing Barriers
5. Changing Consequences
6. Physical Design
7. Modifying/Changing Policies

ENVIRONMENTAL

Use an Effective Planning Framework



CADCA's Coalition Skills and Processes for the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)



CADCA'S SEVEN STRATEGIES for Community Change

- 1. Providing Information**
- 2. Enhancing Skills**
- 3. Providing Support**

INDIVIDUAL

- 4. Enhancing Access/Reducing Barriers**
- 5. Changing Consequences**
- 6. Physical Design**
- 7. Modifying/Changing Policies**

ENVIRONMENTAL



Let's Get Started!



CADCA Gambling Boot Camp Training Objectives

1. Describe how CADCA's Model for Community Change achieves population-level change
2. Describe how coalitions use the public health approach and the continuum of care to guide their work
3. Use the SPF to develop coalition strategic planning products
4. Strengthen partnerships among diverse stakeholders to engage in the work of the coalition
5. Access resources and technical assistance including networking with other prevention professionals

Today's Session Is A Refresher



Activity: Table Introductions

Please describe:

1. Your name(s)
2. Coalition / Organization / Role
3. Community/ Community Population
4. One **fun fact** (e.g., years in prevention, another field you've worked in; a hobby you have....anything!)

Expectations



Not All Problems are Created Equal

**Simple. Complicated.
Complex**



Simple

Baking a Cake

the right “recipe” is essential, but once you’ve discovered it, replication will get you almost the same result every time.



Complicated

Rocket to the Moon

the right “protocols and formulas” are needed, as are high levels of expertise and training. Experience is built over time to get to the right result, which can be repeated over time with the expectation of success.



Complex

Raising a Child

there are no “right” recipes or protocols that work in every situation. There are many outside factors that influence the situation, and every situation is unique. Experience helps, but in no way guarantees success.



Complex

Problem Gambling is a Complex Problem

What Is Prevention?



What is Prevention?

Which answer to: “What is prevention?” do you most agree with (Select 1):

- a. Stopping something before it starts.
- b. Reducing the amount of harm that results from a specific behavior.
- c. Ensuring people have enough information to make healthy decisions.
- d. Putting policies in place that keep people from harming themselves.
- e. Reducing the public’s exposure to potential harm.

Prevention Overview



Public Health Approach



Continuum of Care



Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)

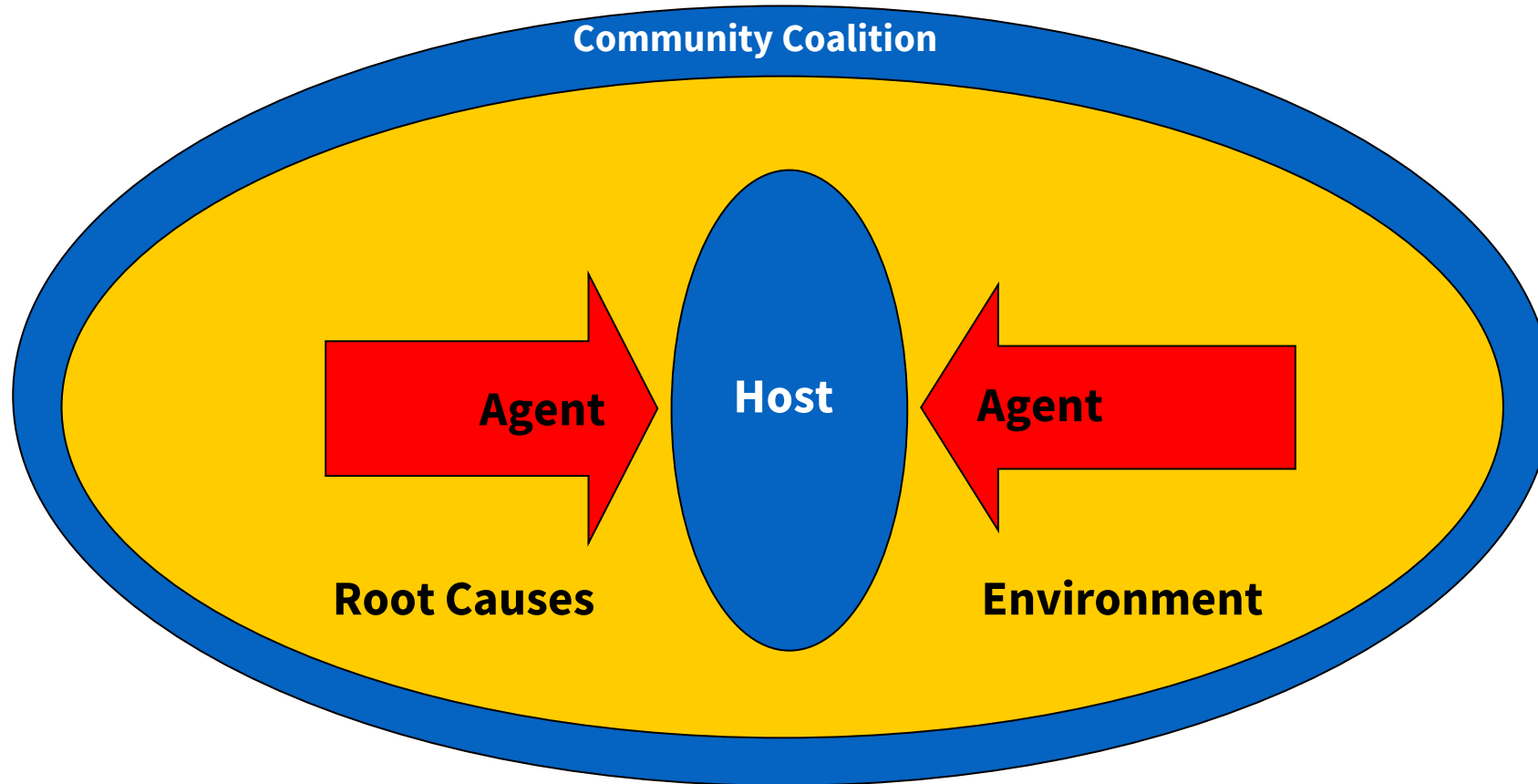


Environmental- and Individual-focused strategies



Community Coalitions

Prevention = Public Health Approach





Public Health Approach – Individual and Environmental Strategies



Programs Target Individuals



**Population: Policies, Systems &
Environments**

The River Story



Downstream

Upstream



Tertiary Prevention

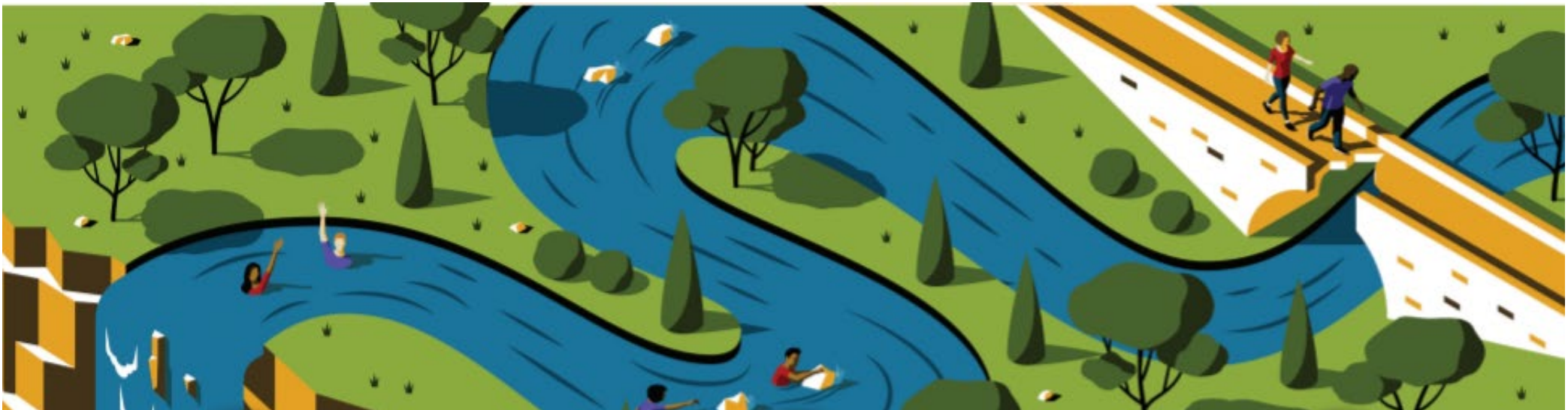
Secondary Prevention

Primary Prevention

Upstream - Downstream

Upstream Approaches: Focus on preventing problems before they start. These address root causes, risk factors, and community conditions.

Downstream Approaches: Focus on responding after problems have occurred. These include treatment, crisis response, or addressing immediate harms.



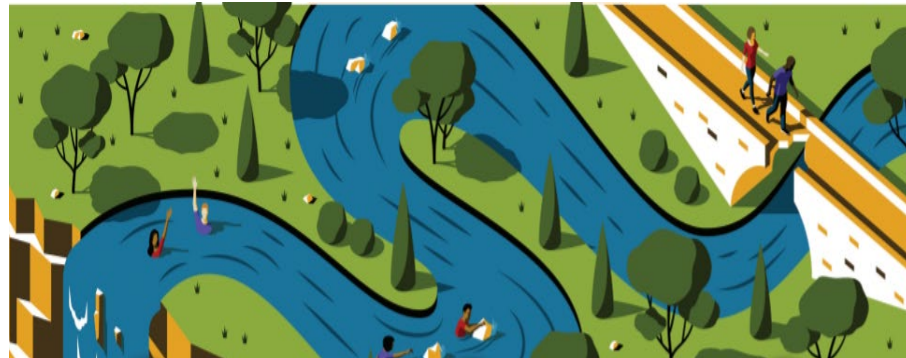
Upstream – Downstream Activity

Think about problem gambling in your community.

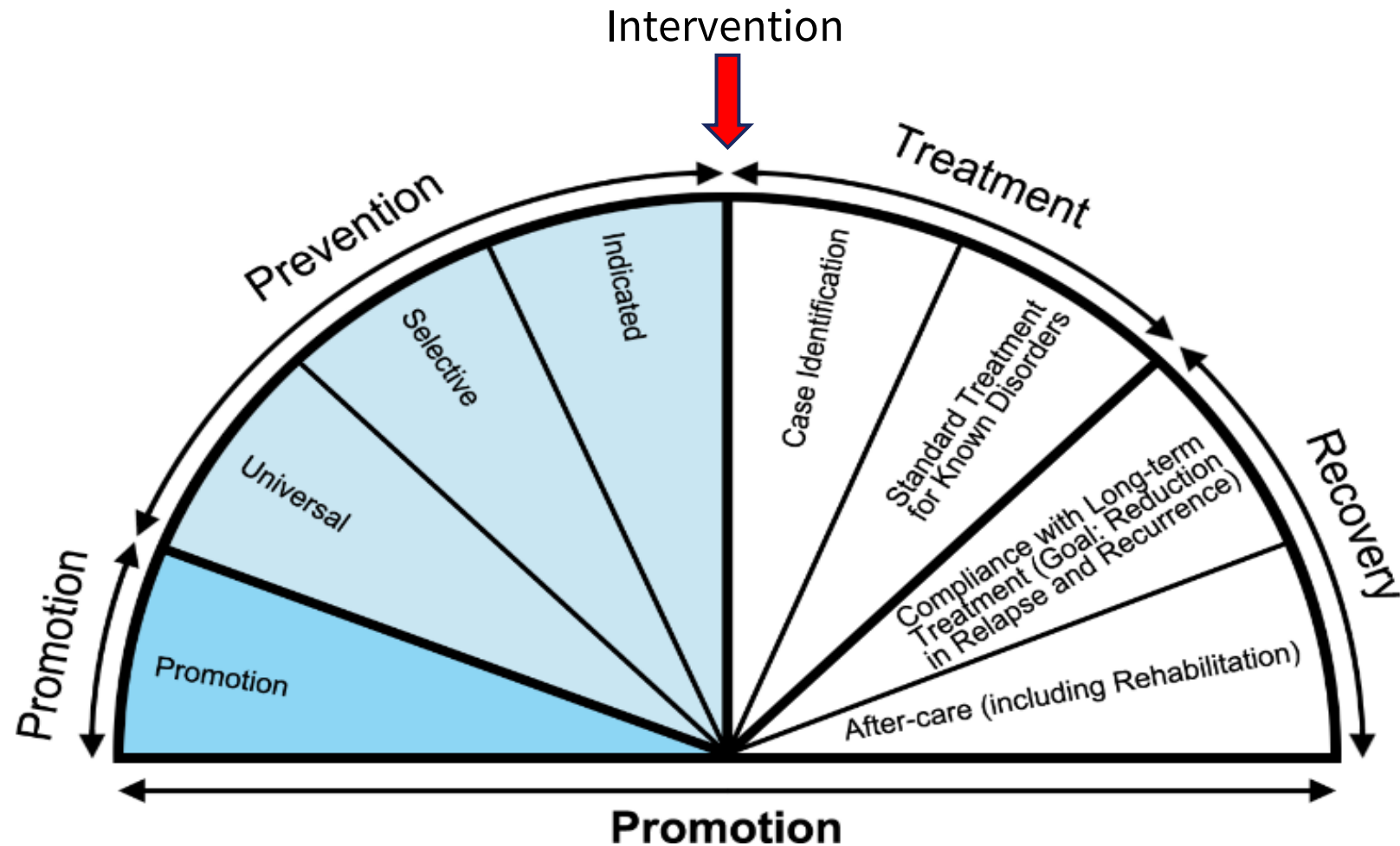
Share one example of a strategy, program, or activity you are aware of.

Decide if it is upstream (prevention, addressing causes) or downstream (treatment, addressing consequences).

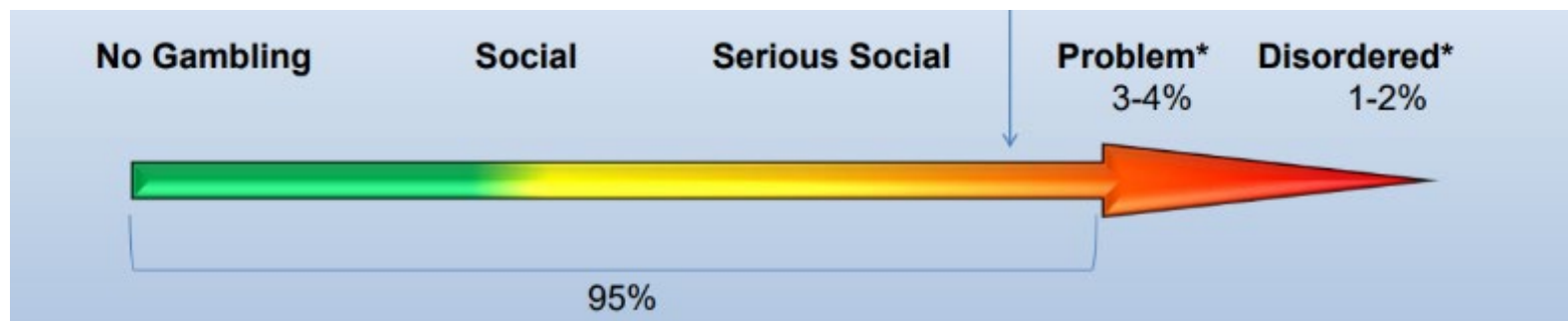
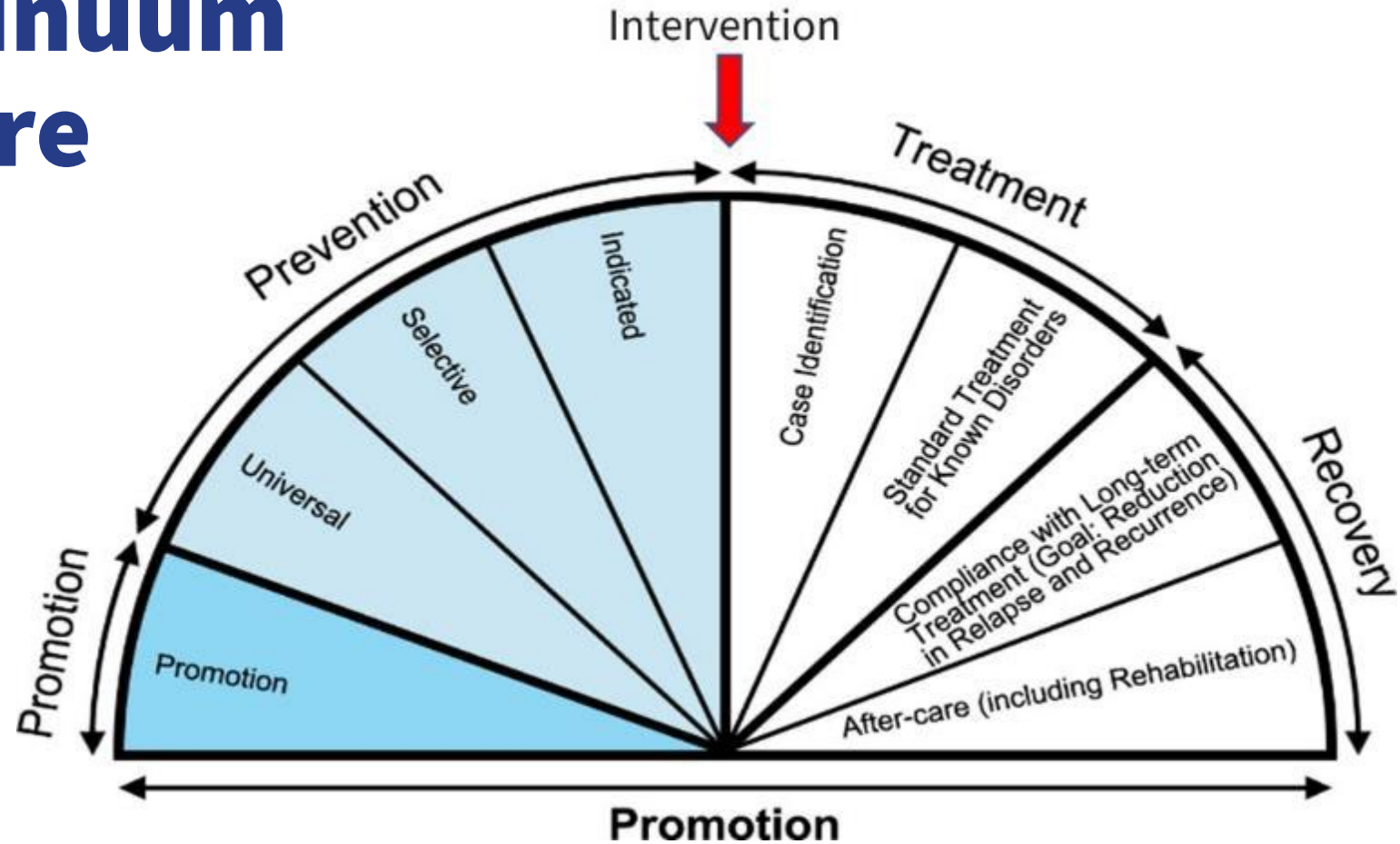
Why did you place it upstream or downstream?



Continuum of Care

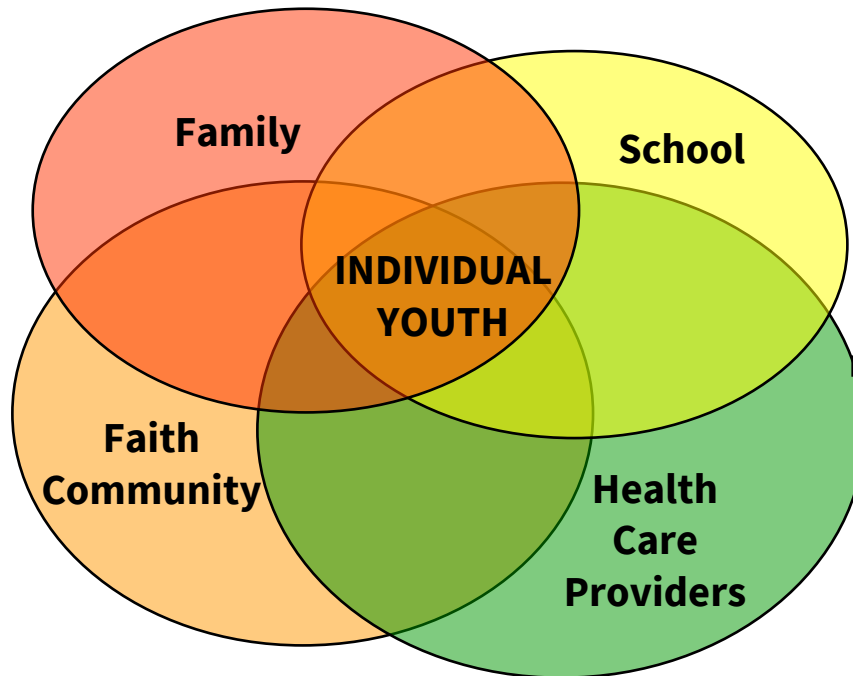


Continuum of Care

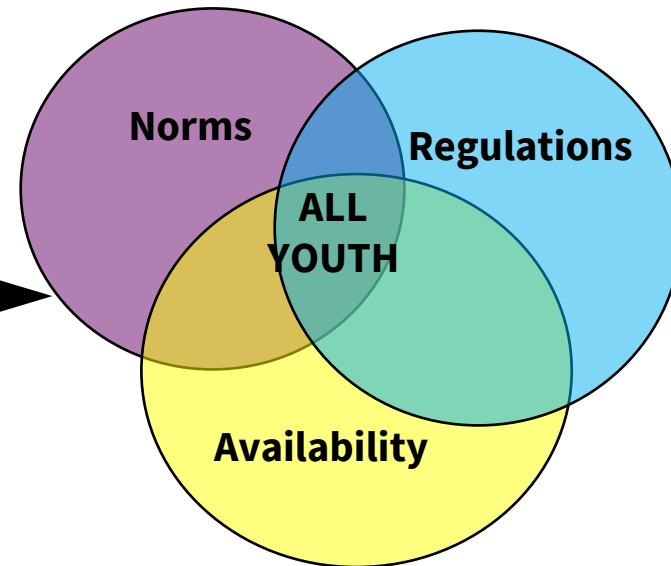


Individual & Environmental Strategies

Strategies Targeting Individualized Environments



Strategies Targeting the Shared “Community” Environment



Individual-focused Strategies

Prevention efforts aimed at **providing information, building skills or supporting** individuals or targeted groups of individuals.

Gambling

- Gambling Prevention Curriculum in schools
- Educating seniors at senior centers on safe gambling practices
- Post 1-800-522-4700 / 1-888-789-7777 at gaming locations
- Awareness Days/Weeks
- Employee training
- Helplines and care services information

Environmental Strategies

Prevention efforts aimed at changing or influencing community **conditions, standards, institutions, structures, systems and policies** that shape behaviors.

Gambling

- Increase fines for selling lotto to minors
- Move lotto tickets behind counters
- Remove self service machines
- Decreasing advertising
- Compliance checks at gambling locations
- Restrict hours / days of service
- Decrease “casino night” events

Community-Level Change

Change the entire
community
environment

City



Implement
environmental
strategies to
change policies

Engage the entire
community

Population 2025:
29,335

Use community-wide
data to measure change

Also called ***Population-level Change***

Community Coalitions

“A coalition is a voluntary, formal agreement and collaboration between groups or sectors of a community in which each group retains its identity but all agree to work together toward a common goal of building a safe, healthy, and drug-free community.”

*Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
(CADCA)*



CADCA's Coalition Model

Combines talent and resources from key sectors to address substance use prevention



YOUTH



PARENTS



BUSINESS



MEDIA



SCHOOLS



YOUTH SERVING
ORGANIZATIONS



HEALTHCARE
PROFESSIONALS



VOLUNTEER
ORGANIZATIONS



RELIGIOUS
ORGANIZATIONS



LAW ENFORCEMENT



STATE/LOCAL
GOVERNMENT



SUBSTANCE USE
PREVENTION
ORGANIZATIONS

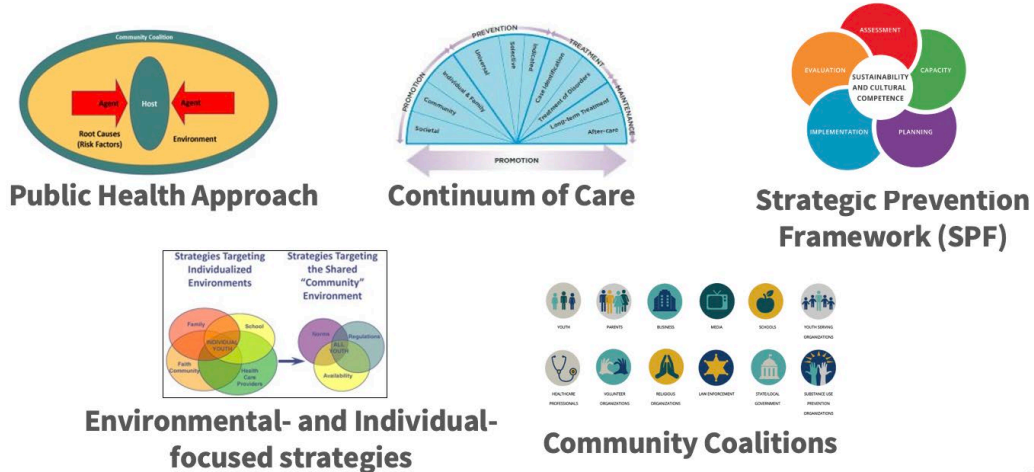
Use an Effective Planning Framework



Activity:

Prevention Today – Key Points

Prevention Overview



23

Based on this material:

1. Identify 2 – 3 key personal “takeaways”
2. What are the key points you will share with your coalition/agency?

Use an Effective Planning Framework



Community Assessment

Moving Upstream: A Story of Prevention & Assessment



Community Assessment

Essential Elements of a Community Assessment

1. Definition & Description
2. Community History
3. Needs Assessment
4. Resource Assessment
5. Problem/Goal Statements

When you have seen one community,
you have seen ONE community



Community Description

- Definition (e.g., city(s), county(s), Zip Codes)
- Provide geographic information (e.g., boundaries, rivers, roads)
- Provide demographic information about the people in the community
- Define the jurisdictions within the boundaries (e.g., cities/towns, school districts/health departments, law enforcement)



Needs Assessment Data

Problem what does UA &
problem gambling look like
in your community?

Consequences of underage
& problem gambling

**Risk Factors &
Protective Factors**
of the problem



COMMUNITY

Demographics provide
information about the population
of the defined community

Local Conditions provide
evidence of the risk factors

Behaviors are Connected



Risk Factor

A characteristic at the biological, psychological, family, community, or cultural level that precedes and is associated with a **higher** likelihood of problem outcomes



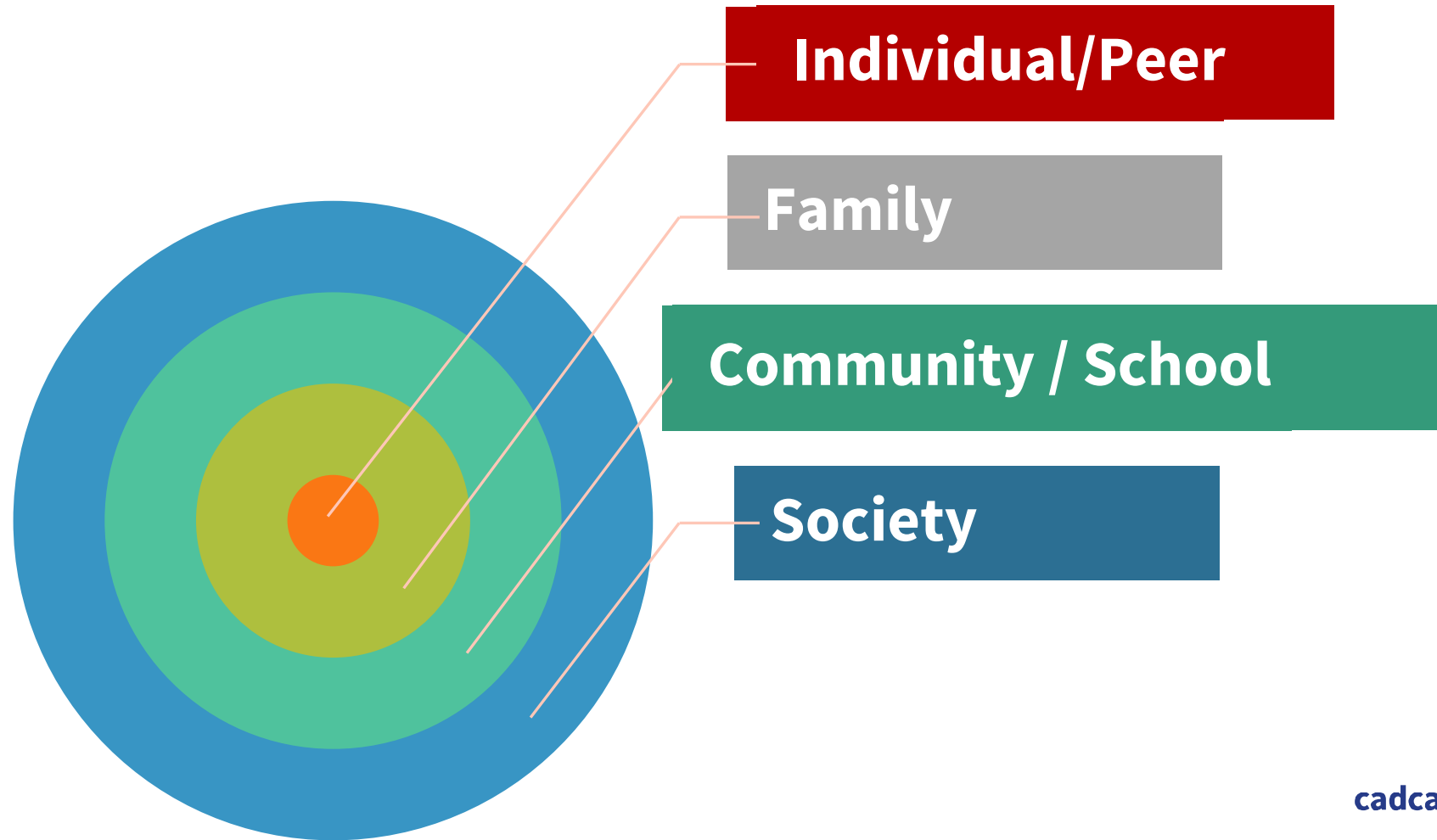
Protective Factor

A characteristic at the individual, family or community level that is associated with a lower likelihood of problem outcomes



Root Causes for Underage Gambling

Multiple Contexts



Root Causes for Underage Gambling

Individual / Peer Domain:

- Peer attitudes favorable to drug use
- Delinquency and persistent problem behaviors.
- Peer influence gambling behaviors
- Early win; early onset of gambling experiences
- Antisocial family

Source: Problem Gambling Guide for Prevention Professionals
<https://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/83/Prevention%20Tool%20Chest/PROBLEM%20GAMBLING%20PREVENTION%20GUIDE.pdf>

Root Causes for Underage Gambling

Individual / Peer Domain - Constitutional Factors

- Biochemical factors: sensation seeking, excitement and arousal during gambling
- Gender - makes
- Depression / Suicide
- Poor coping skills

Source: Problem Gambling Guide for Prevention Professionals
<https://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/83/Prevention%20Tool%20Chest/PROBLEM%20GAMBLING%20PREVENTION%20GUIDE.pdf>

Root Causes for Underage Gambling

Family Domain:

- Family History of Addiction, illegal activity
- Lack of parental knowledge
- Competitive Home Environment
- Family attitudes and involvement
- Lack of parental objection to youth gambling

Source: Problem Gambling Guide for Prevention Professionals
<https://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/83/Prevention%20Tool%20Chest/PROBLEM%20GAMBLING%20PREVENTION%20GUIDE.pdf>

Risk Factors for Underage Gambling

School / Community Domain

- Poor impulse control (School)
- Accessibility (Community)
- Community Norms favorable (Community):
 - Lack of awareness
 - Social Acceptance
 - Media: TV – Lottery Ads

Source: Problem Gambling Guide for
Prevention Professionals
<https://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/userfiles/83/Prevention%20Tool%20Chest/PROBLEM%20GAMBLING%20PREVENTION%20GUIDE.pdf>

Protective Factors for Underage Gambling

To prevent **underage gambling**:

- Encourage youth to be involved in positive social activities such as clubs, sports, and other positive community outlets
- Be a positive role model
- Talk early about the potential for gambling to be a problem
- Avoid giving scratch off tickets as gifts and/or encouraging underage gambling
- Monitor youth's activities and friends
- Establish rules and enforce them

Root Causes – Adult Gambling



Early big wins (Unreasonable
Expectations for winning)

Easy access to preferred
form of gambling

Have history of mental health issues
(e.g., depression and anxiety)

Adult Problem Gambling

Hold mistaken beliefs about
the odds of winning

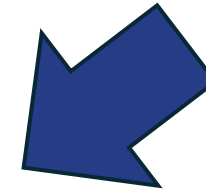
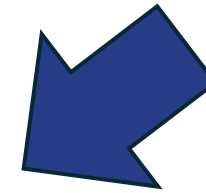
Don't monitor gambling
wins and losses

Often feel bored or lonely /
history of impulsive behavior

Had a recent loss or change
in life (e.g., divorce, death)

Risk Factors – Youth & Adults

- Exposure to video gaming,
- Increased access to electronic gaming,
- Connection to gambling
- Low perception harm,
- Legalization of sports betting
- Community norms



Root Causes (Risk and Protective Factors)



Community-level Risk Factors



- Exposure to video gaming,
- Increased access to electronic gaming,
- Connection to gambling
- Low perception harm,
- Legalization of sports betting
- Community norms



Coalitions look at **community** level risk factors



Local Conditions “But Why Here?”

- **Specific** – is it a behavior or condition that is observable?
- **Identifiable** – Does it occur enough to be measured?
- **Actionable** – Can strategies be implemented that will change the behavior or condition?

But Where? But When? But What Occasions?

Problem: Problem Gambling

Root Cause: Community Norms



Local Condition: Coaches and parents bet on high school sports

Problem: Underage Gaming

Root Cause: Easy access to gambling



Local Condition: Youth are betting while playing video games and parents have no idea that it is happening

Problem: Adult gambling

Root Cause: Easy access to gambling/Price & Promotion



Local Condition: college age males are betting on phones and going into debt

Let's Practice With a Few Scenarios

Scenario 1: Youth Sports Betting

High school students are increasingly betting on professional sports games through online apps. Some parents are aware but consider it “harmless fun.” Teachers have noticed students discussing bets in class, and one student was disciplined for using a school computer to access a gambling site.

What risk factors can you identify?

What protective factors can you identify?

What is one strategy that might be effective?

Scenario 1: Youth Sports Betting

Risk Factors:

- Easy access to online gambling apps
- Normalization of betting
- Low perception of harm among youth
- Low perception of harm among parents

Protective Factors:

- Involved teachers noticing and raising concerns
- School policies already in place against gambling
- Parents who may be open to guidance once educated

Possible Strategies:

Education: School-based awareness campaign targeting parents and students

Policy adoption: Encourage school districts and community recreation programs to adopt policies that ban gambling app logos or betting company sponsorships on youth team uniforms and facilities.

Scenario 2: Seniors & Casino Trips

A local senior center organizes monthly bus trips to a nearby casino. Many older adults attend as a way to socialize, but some have begun showing signs of financial distress. Staff are concerned but feel the trips are a valued tradition.

What risk factors can you identify?

What protective factors can you identify?

What is one strategy that might be effective?

Scenario 2: Seniors & Casino Trips

Risk Factors:

Easy organized access to gambling venues

Social norms that view gambling as acceptable recreation

Isolation and boredom among older adults

Protective Factors:

Senior center staff who are attentive to participants' wellbeing

Availability of healthy recreational activities

Family members who may be allies in prevention

Possible Individual/Program Strategy:

Work with senior center leadership to introduce alternative outings (theater, museums, parks) and integrate responsible gambling resources into programming.

Environmental Strategy:

Partner with senior centers and local transportation providers to **limit or modify casino promotion and advertising** within senior programming

Scenario 3: Gaming and Loot Boxes

A 15-year-old high school student spends hours each evening playing a popular online game with friends. The game offers “loot boxes” that can be purchased with real money, giving players a chance to unlock rare outfits, weapons, or special powers. The student’s parents recently noticed charges on their credit card totaling over \$200 in one month. When asked, the student said, *“I just wanted to get the rare skin everyone else has—it’s not like gambling, it’s just part of the game.”*

What risk factors can you identify?

What protective factors can you identify?

What is one strategy that might be effective?

Scenario 3: Gaming and Loot Boxes

Risk Factors:

Exposure to gambling-like mechanics (chance-based rewards).
Easy access to parents' credit card or digital wallet.
Low perception of harm—youth don't view loot boxes as gambling.

Protective Factors:

Parents monitoring spending and willing to intervene.
Opportunities for conversations about healthy gaming
Schools and youth groups that can provide education on gambling risks.

Possible Individual/Program Strategy:

Parent workshops on gaming, including tools to monitor or block in-game purchases.
Discussions about loot boxes in youth problem gambling prevention education.

Environmental Strategy:

Local schools, libraries, and youth-serving organizations to share resources on responsible gaming.
Support policies requiring clear disclosure of odds and age restrictions for loot box purchases.

What is a Loot Box?

A loot box is a feature in many online and video games where players can pay (with real money, in-game currency, or both) to open a virtual container that gives them random rewards—such as weapons, character skins, or other in-game items.

Key Characteristics:

- The outcome is randomized (players don't know what they'll get).
- Players often feel pressure to keep buying/opening to get rare or valuable items.
- Loot boxes can be purchased repeatedly, sometimes with real money linked directly to credit cards or online payment systems.

What is a Loot Box?

Why it matters in problem gambling prevention:

The mechanics mirror gambling (spending money, chance-based reward, “near misses”).

They are particularly concerning for youth, since they normalize gambling-like behaviors inside popular games.

Research shows a correlation between spending on loot boxes and increased risk of problem gambling behaviors later in life.

Examples of Loot Boxes in Games:

Opening a chest in *Fortnite* or *Overwatch* for a random cosmetic item.

Buying a player pack in sports games like *FIFA Ultimate Team*.

Root Causes (Risk and Protective Factors)



Prevention focuses on:

- Identifying and reducing the underlying causes of the problem behavior - **Risk Factors**
- Identifying and increasing the underlying reasons the problem behavior does NOT occur - **Protective Factors**

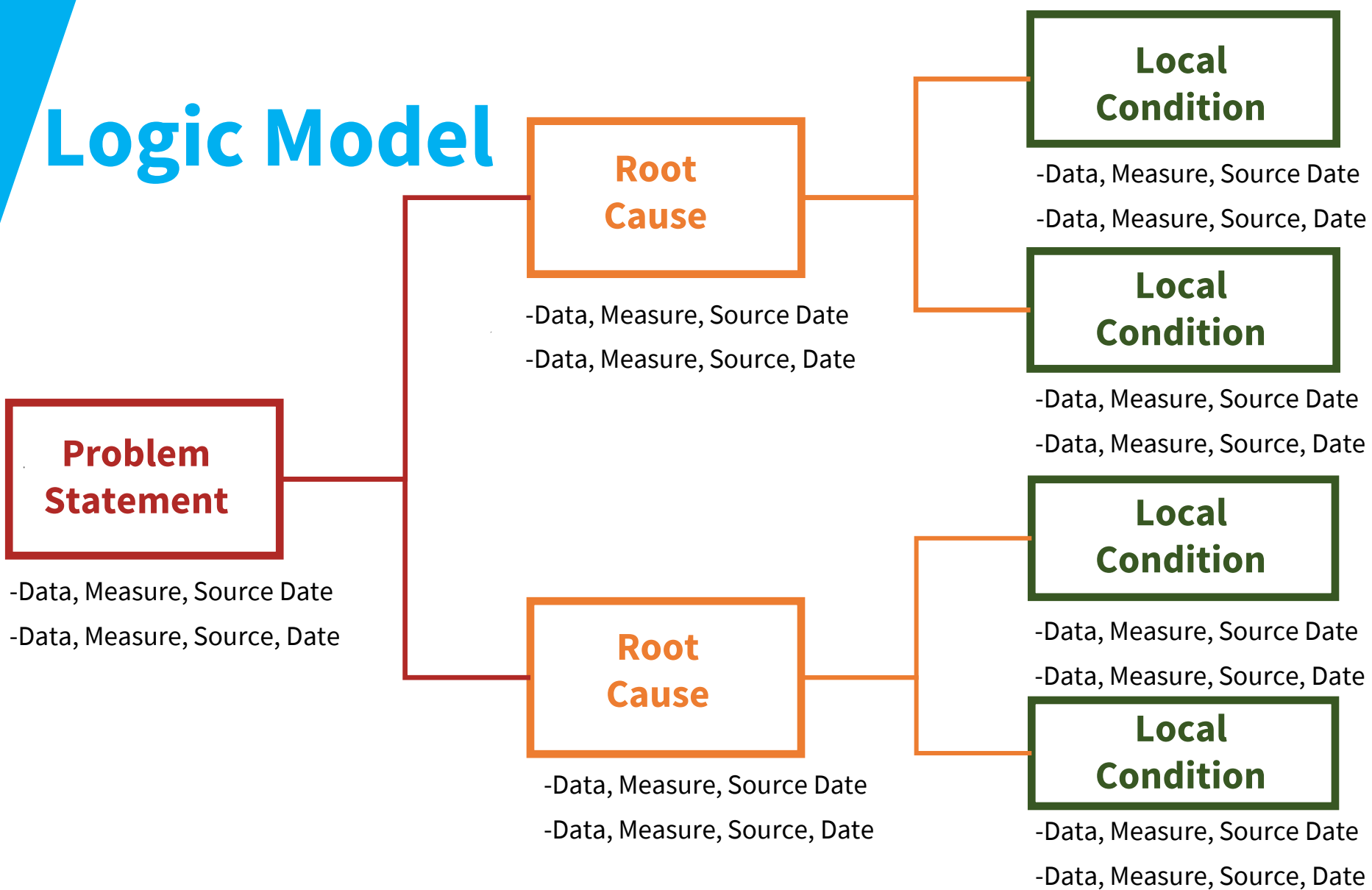


Discussion: **Root Causes & Local Conditions**

Which risk factors do you see in your communities?

Which protective factors do you see in your communities?

Logic Model

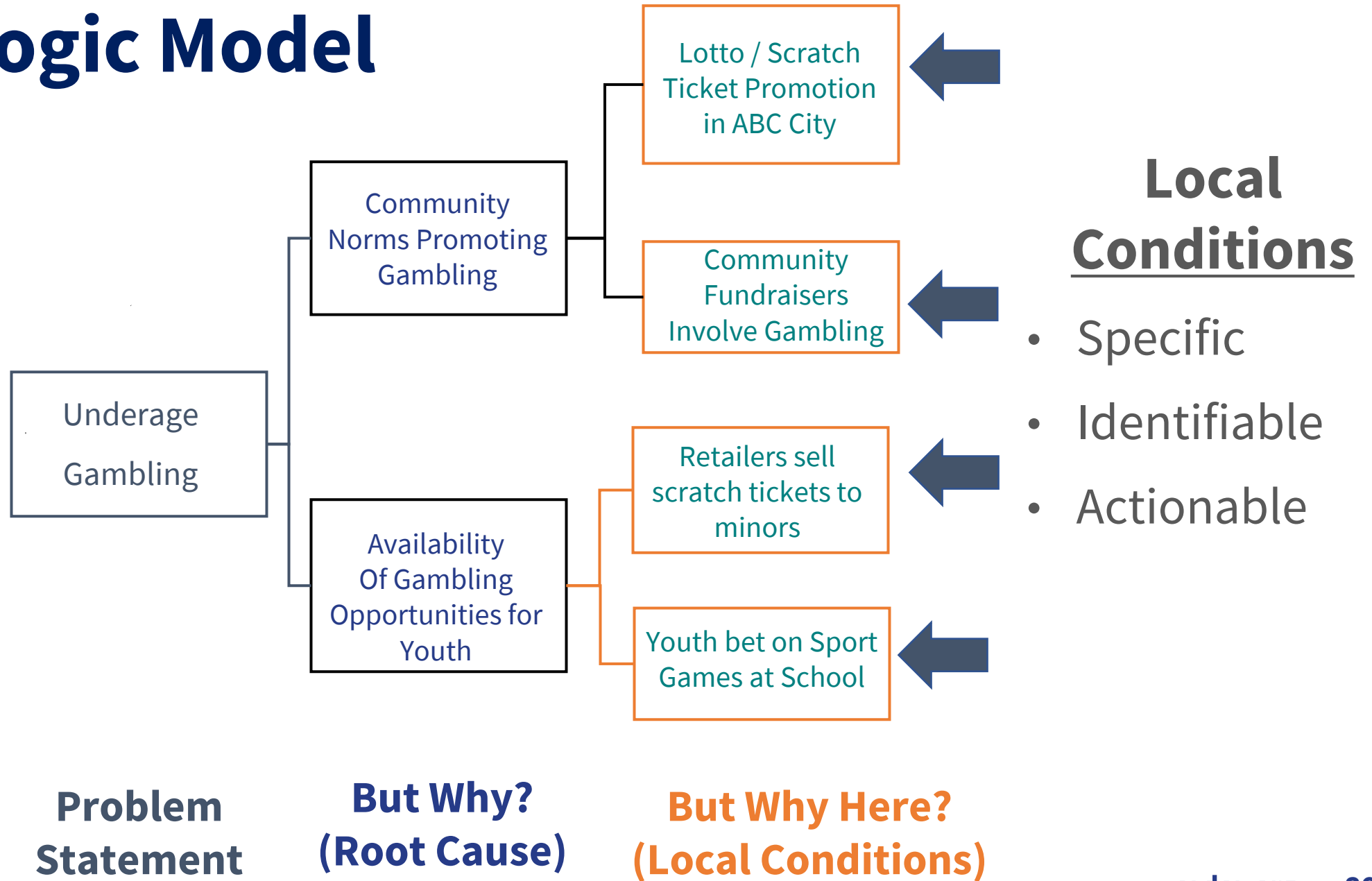


**Problem
Statement**

**But Why?
(Root Cause)**

**But Why Here?
(Local Conditions)**

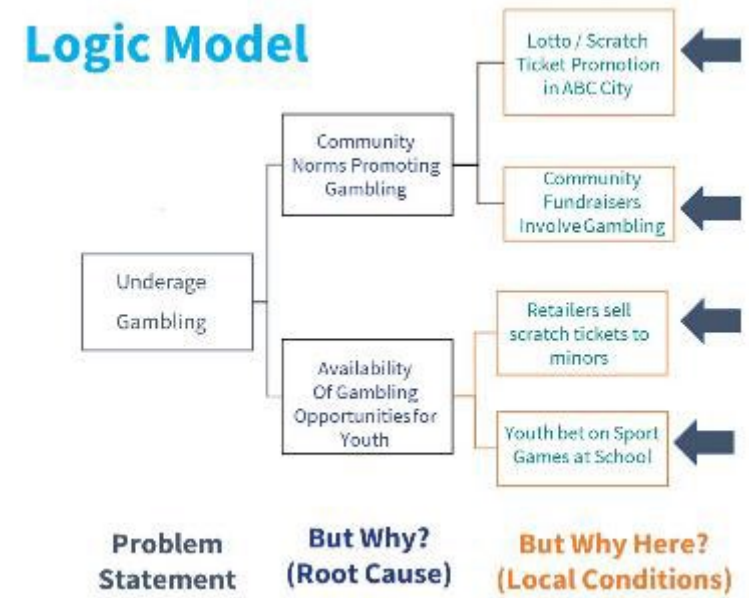
Logic Model



Local Conditions

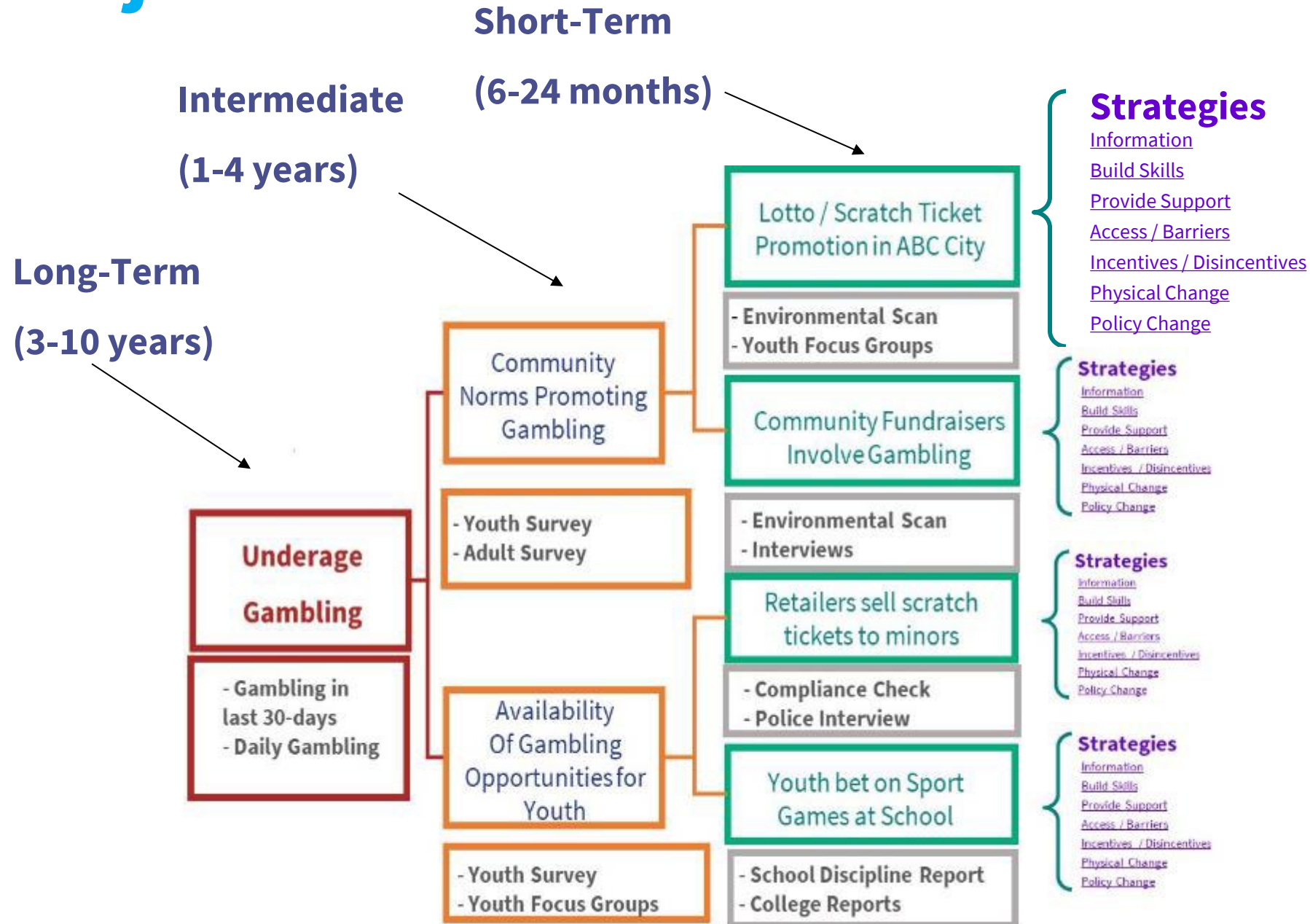
Local Conditions – “But Why Here?”

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But Where? But When? But What Occasions?

Objectives



Comprehensive Strategies

Seven Strategies for Behavior Change

1. **Provide** information
2. **Build** skills
3. **Provide** support
4. **Change** barriers / access
5. **Change** consequences / incentives
6. **Alter** the physical design of the environment
7. **Change** policies, rules, practices, procedures



Comprehensive Strategies

ABC City Prevention Coalition

Local Condition: Retail stores selling scratch tickets to minors.

1. Provide Information— Provide information to retailers on current laws
2. Build Skills—Train merchants to check ID's and look for fake ID's
3. Provide Support— Assist store owners in posting signs and training clerks
4. Access/Barriers—Translate merchant education materials to Spanish
5. Consequences —Increase fines for failed checks /Recognize sellers for passing
6. Physical Design—Post signs: “We don’t sell to minors...”
7. Policies or Regulations— Increase compliance checks/fines

Logic Model

Adult Problem
Gambling in
Region 3

2021, Epidemiological Profile
2022, CCPG, Gambling Helpline
statistics

Social and
Cultural Norms

Need Data: Environmental
Scan, Senior Focus Groups

Marketing toward the older
population encourages and
promotes gambling

Problem Statement

But Why? (Root Cause)

But Why Here? (Local Conditions)

Problem: But Why? But Why Here?



Provide Information— Provide informational packets to senior centers, senior housing, and senior transportation about safe gambling



Build Skills— Offer gambling information trainings to staff, members, and residents of senior centers/senior housing.

Problem: But Why? But Why Here?



Provide Support—

List of local problem gambling supports such as Better Choice and the CCPG Helpline



Access / Barriers—

Limit the number of trips senior centers provide to casinos. Encourage alternate outings in place of casinos.

Problem: But Why? But Why Here?



Change Consequences— Letters of appreciation to senior centers that participate



Physical Design—

Posting of responsible gambling information inside transportation



Policies or Regulations--

Work with senior centers/senior housing/senior transportation to limit casino and gambling advertising within their organizations.

Next Steps

- **Connect** with Senior Center Directors to open dialog around problem gambling and conduct environmental scans
- **Develop** resource packet about preventing problem gambling and available local resources to distribute to senior centers
- **Schedule** a CAP training targeting older adult support staff and caregivers
- **Partner** with senior facilities to post responsible gambling information inside their location and inside transportation



Columbia Health Services

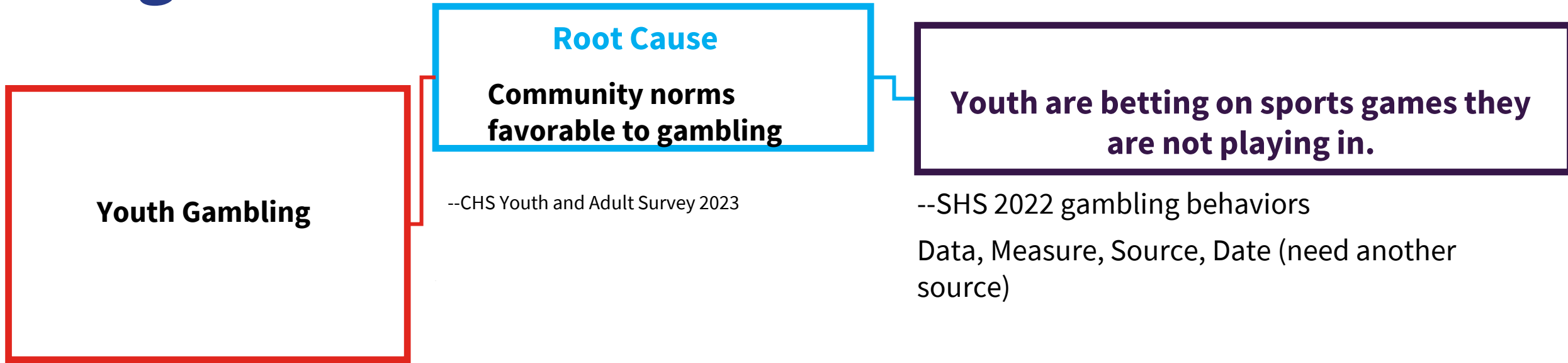
Columbia Health Services

Problem Gambling
Strategies, Activities and Progress

April 2024



Logic Model



--CHS Youth and Adult Survey 2023

--SHS 2022 gambling behaviors

Data, Measure, Source, Date (need another source)

-22.9% 6th graders, 19.8% 8th graders, & 15.5% 11th graders report gambling in last 30 days, SHS, 2022

Problem Statement

But Why? (Root Cause)

But Why Here? (Local Conditions)

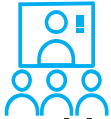
Problem: Youth Gambling

But Why? Community Norms Favorable to Gambling

But Why Here? Youth are gambling on sports games they are not playing in and on games of skill (video games, sports, dares)

Provide Information— Educational presentations that defines gambling and problem gambling for students and caregivers, including brain science information.

Utilize educational information to teach the community that gambling is a problem in our community.



Help teach parents and caregivers about warning signs of children gaming addiction and the correlation between gaming and gambling



Build Skills—provide the community with other options for stress relief than gambling and gaming. Work with parents to coach them on how to monitor phones and video game use; monitor debit cards/bank accounts

Problem: Youth Gambling
But Why? Community Norms Favorable to Gambling
But Why Here? Youth are gambling on sports games they are not playing in and on games of skill (video games, sports, dares)



Provide Support—Work with school based health centers and school counselors to add assessments around gambling and gaming. Identify youth who may be at risk for gambling and refer them to appropriate help. work with schools to provide a monthly fun night for youth with board games, movies, and food.



Access / Barriers— restrict betting at sporting events

Problem: Youth Gambling
But Why? Community Norms Favorable to Gambling
But Why Here? Youth are gambling on sports games they are not playing in and on games of skill (video games, sports, dares)



Change Consequences— If Students in Columbia County school get caught gambling on school WiFi there are consequences in place. Make sure schools have gambling sites blocked on their WiFi



Physical Design— Teach parents how to set WiFi and other filters to eliminate and block exposure to gambling.



Policies or Regulations— If wanting to purchase a game or gambling in an app, the app must be able to verify age of buyer through drivers license or state provided ID.

Activity :

Logic Model Discussion

Discussion: *Why do logic models matter?*

- How do they help coalitions/organizations stay focused?
- How do they help with accountability and evaluation?

What makes a strategy “fit” the local condition?

- Share an example from your own work where a strategy succeeded (or failed) because of how well it matched the problem.

Activity :

Gambling Boot Camp Refresher

Based on this session:

1. What are the key points you would share with your coalition or organization?
2. What specific actions will you take?
3. On which topics would you like to receive additional training?



Expectations

Did We Meet Your Expectations? Let's
Revisit Them...

Thank You!



Dorothy Chaney

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