

A Comprehensive Reproductive Health Strategy for Engaging Young Men of Color

Overview and Structure of the Webinar

- Objectives:
- Discuss the importance of a comprehensive approach to provide services to young men; -- Contextualize the services at the YMC
- Outline the five, not four, components of a comprehensive approach; and
- Discuss strategies (more examples/ options) for integrating the approach. (in relationship to two cases)
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- The environment in which a young man is raised, the people with whom he has contact, and the opportunities and challenges of life presented to him will influence the health risks he faces ---
- and his sexual and reproductive decision making.
 - Speak to the Boy's Initiative
 - Speak to the Young Men's Initiative
 - Recent interest in the health, particular the SRH of males in foster care in NYC

Important! A comprehensive approach to provide services to young men

- SRH services should be holistic in its approach to males – health promotion within the context of the whole person.

Broad Statement –

- For this reason, enhancing the reproductive health of young men potentially necessitates a range of support activities—such as recreation, employment and training, and spiritual guidance—that promote healthy social development, a positive self-image, meaningful interpersonal relationships, educational attainment, and integration into the formal economy.

Context of the YMC

- Story of the success of YMC start
 - Started with showing interest in them!!
 - Youth Development
 - Not just a vector of disease.
 - Secret to our success: Continue to show interest in the individual as a whole!
 - (Speculation: this mirrors the success for women– feminists got interested in making sure women were provided with respectful and quality services that women needed!– from a positive stance for betterment of female in general!)
 - Where are we now.... CBOs / Single Stop program...
 - Relate back to the previous slide

SRH involves not just the absence of disease, but the presence of positive personal and social assets

- Strength-based approach
 - In the context of many disenfranchised young men’s lives, some feel that their sexual prowess is their main or the only “strength”.
 - In each of our domains when necessary, we should seek to acknowledge the strengths of the person beyond

Goals of the Sexual and Reproductive Health (for males)

- Promote sexual health and development.
- Promote healthy intimate relationships.
- Prevent and control STDs, including HIV.
- Prevent unintended pregnancy.
- Promote responsible fatherhood.

Outline the four components of a comprehensive approach

- Convey necessary information.
- Foster skills development.
- Promote positive self-concept.
- Identify and develop positive values and motivation to act on those values.
- Provide access to clinical care.

Two Cases

- In the absence of disease: Anxiety and fear about STIs – 19 yo male who comes in every time he has sex. He always uses a condom.
- The importance of personal and social assets in the presence of infection: 28 yo male 2 yr hx of HSV, broke off a 3 month relationship that was going well with a female. He reports he has not ever had a relationship past 3 months. Hx of depression.