

Non-traditional Collaborations: Reaching Beyond the mental health clinic through the libraries.

Mental Health Parenting Program

- Mental Health Parenting Program (MHPP) is a collaborative project between the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the County of Los Angeles Public Library (CPL)
- Program funded six full-time staff and ten part-time

Mental Health Parenting Program

- The partnership incorporated existing services already available through the library's work in programs that encouraged a love of learning and strengthened parenting and relationship skills.
- The goal of MHPP was accomplished through the integration of three programs: Triple P (Positive Parenting Program), Family Place and Parent Café

Triple P Training

- CPL librarians were trained in levels 2 and 3 of Triple P
- The CPL staff were trained in Primary Care, Primary Care Teen, Discussion Group and Selected Seminars
- Training complemented and was parallel to the curriculums of the Family Place and Parent Café programs

Family Place

- Early literacy program for parents and their young children ages 0-4
- Children are taught early reading skills through the concept of play
- Emphasis is on the relationship and the bonding between the parent and the child

Family Place

- Workshops were held in five week intervals
- Librarians hosted the workshops and provided Triple P interventions and promoted Triple P resources.

Family Place Space











Parent Café

- Social networking group for parents to meet other parents in their neighborhood
- Parents meet once a month and are given a topic to discuss with each other
- Children are engaged in fun activities in another room with a librarian while the parents participate in Parent Café

Parent Café

- The Parent Café is based on a foundational model from the Strengthening Families initiative
- This model emphasizes the use of protective factors
- The Strengthening Families Protective Factors Include:
 - Enhancing Parental Resilience
 - Developing Social Connections
 - Building Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development

Parent Café

Protective Factors Continued..

- Offering Concrete Support in Times of Need
- Fostering Social and Emotional Competence
- Promoting Healthy Parent-Child Relationships

Parent Café



Adapting traditional mental health programs to non-traditional settings

- Be flexible
- IT may take a few tries and tweaks
- Provide support
- Don't use professional jargon
- Be in it for the long run if possible
- Be open to suggestions from your partner
- Offer incentives
- A lot of community outreach to get the word out—share resources
- May have to start small—share resources; host programming at the library
- Consider an MOU or letter of agreement

MHPP

- MHPP began in March of 2012 and ended in June of 2013
- A total of 300 Family Place programs were implemented through the grant with a total attendance of 9,000 children and caregivers.
- A total of 75 Parent Café programs took place during the grant period. 1000 adults and children attended the programs.

Thank You!

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Questions?

