

THE SPF PROCESS TOOL 1: THE SPF PROCESS WITH DEI CONSIDERATIONS

USE A STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS¹

The Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) is a planning process that provides opportunities to address health inequities through the lens of culture and ensures that members of diverse population groups can participate in, and feel comfortable with prevention practices. It is important to include members of prioritized populations from the beginning, starting with planning a needs assessment and throughout the SPF to ensure their voices are clearly heard. The following considerations can help you with your DEI efforts within the SPF process.

- Assessment.** Identify populations vulnerable to behavioral health disparities and the health disparities they experience. Identify data gaps and make efforts to fill them. Develop plans to share and solicit input about assessment findings with members of these populations.
- Capacity.** Build the knowledge, resources and readiness of prevention service providers and community members to address disparities and provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services. Ensure understanding of the unique needs of populations experiencing disparities.
- Planning.** Involve members of your focus population as active participants and decision-makers in the planning process. Identify and prioritize factors associated with disparities. Incorporate effective evidence-based prevention interventions developed for and evaluated with an audience similar to your focus population.
- Implementation.** Implement evidence-based prevention strategies that target populations experiencing health disparities. Involve members of these groups in the design and delivery of these programs. Use expert consultation to adapt or tailor evidence based practices to be more culturally relevant. For example, create an in-person version of a virtual training or provide internet hotspots so that it is accessible to audiences with limited internet access.
- Evaluation.** Conduct process and outcome evaluations to determine whether prevention strategies have the intended impact. Track all adaptations of the strategies. Conduct follow-up interviews with program participants to better understand program evaluation findings.
- Cultural Competency.** Develop and maintain cultural competency by interacting effectively with people of different cultures. Ensure that efforts address the needs of all community members.
- Sustainability.** Engage in sustainability planning efforts with partners who represent and work with populations experiencing behavioral health disparities. Sustain processes that have successfully engaged members of these populations and programs that produce positive outcomes. Collaborating with other organizations and groups who share the same goals can help in this process.

¹ Section adapted from

<https://www.prevention.org/Resources/648ff313-5591-4528-8449-a883089d3e13/Delivering%20Culturally%20Responsive%20Prevention%20Resource%20Guide%20FY22%20FINAL.pdf>