

HEALTH PROGRAM INVENTORY: A LIST OF EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS

Overview

To inform departments, stakeholders, and the legislature about health programs throughout the nation that have a rigorous body of research, the Research and Evidence-Based Policy Initiatives team is releasing an additional inventory of evidence-based health programs with generalizable findings from the meta-analytic review by WSIPP.¹

The inventory is designed to provide straightforward information about each program, including program description, research, outcomes, and whether the program is being administered in Colorado by HCPF or CDPHE. Please note that the outcomes listed for each program reflect what was researched. Programs may be able to impact other outcomes, but those listed are what have been measured in the research studies. Below provides additional information about what is included in the inventory.

Program Inventory

The program inventory contains the following information:

- **Program Description:** Provides general information about the population served by the program and the program's purpose, goals, and operations.
- **Links to Research:** Provides a link to the program's information page on WSIPP's website. The specific research studies reviewed by WSIPP are accessible by clicking on the "Citations" tab.
- **Evidence of program favorably impacting outcome(s):** Indicates, based on the research, whether the program has been shown to favorably impact outcomes. If so, the outcomes are listed. To be listed in this category, an outcome has to have: (1) statistical significance based on a meta-analysis of multiple, rigorous studies that measured the outcome,² or (2) statistical significance from one rigorous research study that measured the outcome,³ and the research study had to have had a sample size (n) that was over 400.
- **Evidence of program having neutral or no impact on outcome(s):** Indicates, based on the research, whether the program has been shown to have no impact, or a neutral impact, on outcomes. If so, the outcomes are listed. Outcomes listed in this category are those that had no statistical significance

¹ For more information, please go to <http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/TechnicalDocumentation/WsippBenefitCostTechnicalDocumentation.pdf>, section "2.2 Meta-Analytic Procedures: Study Selection and Coding Criteria," for more information on WSIPP's study inclusion criteria.

² Statistical significance defined as $p < 0.1$. Put in another way, the Research and Evidence-Based Policy Initiatives team deems an outcome as "favorable" if we can say with 90 percent or greater confidence that the outcome measured is due to the program.

³ Ibid.

based on either a meta-analysis of multiple rigorous studies or one single rigorous study.⁴

- **Evidence of program unfavorably impacting outcome(s):** Indicates, based on the research, whether the program has been shown to unfavorably impact outcomes. If so, the outcomes are listed. To be listed in this category, the adverse outcome must have statistical significance based on either a meta-analysis of multiple, rigorous studies or one single rigorous study.⁵
- **Program Administered by HCPF or CDPHE:**⁶ Indicates whether the program is administered by HCPF and/or CDPHE. If so, please reference the department's program inventory for additional information about the program's implementation in Colorado.

⁴ Neutral effect defined as $p > 0.1$. Put in another way, the Research and Evidence-Based Policy Initiatives team deems an outcome as “neutral” if we cannot say with 90 percent or greater confidence that the outcome is not due to chance.

⁵ Statistical significance defined as $p < 0.1$. Put in another way, the Research and Evidence-Based Policy Initiatives team deems an outcome as “unfavorable” if we can say with 90 percent or greater confidence that the outcome measured is due to the program.

⁶ Programs may be operational through other organizations, providers, or departments, but only HCPF and CDPHE information is presented because they were the main health entities engaged in this process.