Goodness of Fit Worksheet

Although different programs may have demonstrated to be effective, you will want to determine how these may fit into your community. The goodness of fit worksheet will walk you through different considerations to help you determine whether the EBP you selected is a good match for your community. Please pass this handout out to your group and allow about 7-10 minutes. Once everyone is finished, discuss each category answers and discussion questions.

Mission, Goals, and Objectives

	Yes	No	N/A
Does this approach fit your community's identified needs?			
	○	○	○
Does the approach fit with the values underlying your community's mission?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○
Is the approach compatible with your community's current focus?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○

What is one main barrier or challenge in your community that you anticipate and how can you overcome it?

How can you gain support for this EBP in your community? Consider the following:

- Who are the critical stakeholders?
- How can you frame your project to meet their priorities/needs/motivations?
- Are there people or agencies that might stand in the way of successful implementation?

Implementation Capacity

The approach you select must be within your ability to implement. Some evidence-based prevention programs and practices are complex and can be difficult to implement. Consider the following questions when selecting an approach. As you do this assessment, you may not have all the resources you need, but you will need to have them before you actually begin.

	Yes	No	N/A
Does your community have the human resources to implement the approach?			
	○	○	○
Does your community have the material resources to implement the approach?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○
Does your community have the appropriate funding to implement the approach?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○
Can you implement the approach in the manner it was designed?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○
Does the approach take into account the readiness of the community and the targeted population?	Yes	No	N/AA
	○	○	○

How will this approach fit into the current structure and operations (e.g., of a school, coalition, workplace, etc.)? Consider the following:

- Who needs to be contacted to gain access to delivery sites?
- What will need to change in the current structure and operations? What can stay the same?

Cultural Relevance

Not every approach, evidence-based or not, will fit the cultural characteristics of your community. A program designed for an African American community, for example, may not be as good a fit for a Hispanic community. When considering cultural relevance, take into account the following:

	Yes	No	N/A
Is the approach appropriate for the community's values and existing practices?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○
Is the approach appropriate for the culture and characteristics of the community	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○
Does the approach take into account the community's values and traditions that affect how its citizens and the targeted group regard juvenile justice issues?	Yes	No	N/A/A
	○	○	○
Has the approach shown positive results in areas that are important to your community?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○

- What capacity/strengths does the community have to respond to the prioritized needs and its cultural aspects?
- What cultural aspects should be considered when selecting our approach?

Evidence-based and Effective

The term evidence-based is often used to describe programs or practices that have been shown to be effective in juvenile justice populations. To see whether the approach you are interested in meets the criteria for being evidence-based and effective, answer the following questions.

	Yes	No	N/A
Is the approach based on a well-defined theory or model?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○
Is there documented evidence of effectiveness (such as formal evaluation results)?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○
Have the results been replicated successfully by different researchers over time?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○
Has the approach been shown to be effective for areas similar to those you will address?	Yes	No	N/A
	○	○	○

- What will be the process of establishing this approach?
  Consider the following:
    - Will you pilot test the program before going "full scale"?
    - What are the tasks that need to be accomplished leading up to implementation?
    - What is the timeline?