NC-ACE Update:

1) School Success Profile-Plus (SSP+) Needs Assessment Years 1 to 3
2) Progress in Program Implementation

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http://ncace.web.unc.edu
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* Paul Smokowski’s spouse
CTC is installed in a community through a five-phase process implemented over a 1-2 year period:

1) **Get Started**—assessing community readiness to undertake collaborative prevention efforts;

2) **Get Organized**—getting a commitment to the CTC process from community leaders and forming a diverse and representative Community Youth Violence Prevention Board or coalition;

3) **Develop a Profile**—using epidemiologic data to assess prevention needs;

4) **Create a Plan**—choosing effective prevention practices, and programs based on assessment data;

5) **Implement and Evaluate**—implementing the new strategies with fidelity, in a manner congruent with the programs’ theory, content, and methods of delivery, and evaluating progress over time.
Mission: To decrease youth violence in Robeson County, NC
• Five year grant from CDC
• Community Based Participatory Research
• Implement multi-component youth violence prevention initiative

Robeson County, NC
Lost 8,500 jobs over last decade (40% of private sector labor force).
The most ethnically diverse rural county in U.S. (43% Native American, 9% Latino, 30% African American, 17% non-Latino White).
Largest non-reservation concentration of Native Americans (Lumbee Nation)
Homicide rate 23.9/100,000 4x national rate 5.2/100K
Ranks first in NC for juvenile arrests (16,064 per 100,000)

Youth Violence Prevention Programs

Universal Prevention: Positive Action (PA) and Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE)
• Community Partner: Public Schools of Robeson County
• 13 Intervention Schools; 55 teachers
• > 4,700 participating 6th - 8th graders
• Compare to 9 schools in Columbus County without PA and SAVE

Targeted Prevention: Teen Court (TC) for First Offenders
• Community Partners: Juvenile Services, Office of Courts, Law Enforcement Agencies & SROs
• Serve 120 adolescents each year
• Assess recidivism
• Compare to TC and non-TC juveniles

Targeted Prevention: Parenting Wisely (PW) for Parents
• Community Partners: RC DSS, Churches, Family Services Agencies, RC Health Dept.
• Serve 100-150 parents each year
• Compare no-TX to PW delivered in different formats
• Pretest, Posttest, 6 mo follow-ups

Rural Adaptation Project: Longitudinal Panel Study of more than 5,000 Adolescents
Robeson County (RC) Health Dept, Public Schools of RC, Lumberton Police Dept, RC District Court, Southeastern Family Violence Center, Healing Lodge, RC Partnership for Children, RC NAACP, RC Juvenile Crime Prevention Council, UNC-Pembroke, Lumbee Tribe, Southeastern Mental Health, Guardian Ad Litem program, DSS.
Comparing Robeson County to Other Counties in North Carolina

Figure 2: NC Complaints Against Juveniles 2008

Note: Wake, Durham, Guilford, Forsyth, Cumberland, and Mecklenburg Counties are urban areas with large populations. The remaining counties are rural with high levels of youth violence.

Complaints Against Juveniles (Number) – 2008

Action for Children North Carolina
KIDS COUNT Data Center, www.kidscount.org/datacenter
A Project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation
Burglary: Breaking & Entering
Arrests 2000-2011

Runaways Arrests 2000 - 2011
Data Collection Procedure

- Two rural counties: Census in Columbus County, randomly selected 40% of students in Robeson County.
- Baseline data for the Rural Adaptation Project collected in Spring 2011, then annually in Spring thereafter.
- Panel study: Follow core cohort for 5 years, add 500 more 6th graders each year for comparison.
- Students gave assent and completed an online assessment (SSP+) in a school computer lab
  - Each student was given a $10 gift card
  - Students were free to skip any question or stop the assessment at any time
Sample: 6\textsuperscript{th}-8\textsuperscript{th} Grade Students

2,873 in target county
and 1,448 in comparison county

Gender: 48.6\% Male
Free/Reduced Lunch: 67.9\%
Mean Age: 12.81 years
Research Question 1: How Common are Negative School Experiences?
Prevalence of Negative School Experiences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Prevalence</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bullied (12 months)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronically Bullied (12 months)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afraid of Being Hurt at School*</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afraid of Being Hurt on Way to School</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulted (30 Days)</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disrespected (30 Days)</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excluded from Activity (30 Days)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treated Unfairly (30 Days)</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prevalence of Negative School Experiences

- **Picked On (30 Days)**: 43 (Males), 21 (Females)
- **Threatened (30 Days)**: 21 (Males), 24 (Females)
- **Pushed-Shoved-Hit (30 Days)**: 34 (Males), 24 (Females)
- **Made Fun of By Friends**: 17 (Males), 15 (Females)
- **Racial Insult (30 Days)**: 24 (Males), 17 (Females)
- **Difficulty Making Friends**: 32 (Males), 17 (Females)
Negative School Environment

- Students Make Fun of Other Students* - 95
- Disagreements Between Different Races - 66
- Destruction of School Property by Students - 95
- Students Carry Weapons - 66
- Students in Gangs
- Students Verbally Abuse Teachers
- Students Physically Abuse Teachers - 26
- * Happens sometimes or often
Robeson County youth reports of:
• school hassles and peer rejection have decreased by 7% over the past two years.
• peer pressure have decreased by 5% over the past two years.
• Sixth graders in Robeson County report 6% less depression than they did last year.
• Reports of bullying perpetration (being a bully) decreased by 3% for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders in Robeson County.

We are not claiming that our programs caused these changes. At this point, we are only saying that a large number of Robeson County youth have told us that these indicators are getting better.
School Success Profile
Results from Years 1 to 3

Depression Scores in Robeson & Columbus Counties

6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Depression Scores in Robeson & Columbus Counties
Anxiety Scores in Robeson & Columbus Counties

6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Anxiety in Robeson & Columbus Counties

Percent of 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders who Reported Bullying Perpetration in Robeson & Columbus Counties
How do Middle Schoolers Define Bullying?

“When someone is trying to put you down and run over the top of ya. Like calling you names or try to, uh, embarrass you in front of your friends and all that. [The bully] try to take control of you.” 6th grade male.

“I believe it means a person and another person, but the one person getting like, jumped or hit on or getting’ taken stuff from them.” 8th grade female.

“Somebody getting’ picked on and somebody getting’ in a fight.” 8th grade male.

“Somebody hurts some other person. They say something that makes you sad and tries to make you mad.” 6th grade female.

“Like, somebody say somethin’ mean and then push me and I push ‘em back.” 9th grade male.
Shut Up
Wimp!

Don’t bully him

Stop that
–
NOW!
6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Externalizing Behavior in Robeson & Columbus Counties


Robeson 6th
Columbus 6th
Robeson 7th
Columbus 7th
Robeson 8th
Columbus 8th

6th, 7th, & 8th Grade School Hassles in Robeson & Columbus Counties

6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Peer Rejection in Robeson & Columbus Counties


Robeson 6th
Columbus 6th
Robeson 7th
Columbus 7th
Robeson 8th
Columbus 8th
Don’t let peer pressure lead you to do the wrong things.

Smoking

Drinking

Lying

Stealing
School Profile: Littlefield Middle

Neighborhood Perceptions

**Neighborhood Support**
- Year 1 (2011): 3.1
- Year 2 (2012): 2.9
- Year 3 (2013): 2.8

**Neighborhood Crime**
- 6th Grade: 1.6
- 7th Grade: 1.3
- 8th Grade: 1.1
School Profile: Littlefield Middle

Individual Well-Being

**Internalizing - Anxiety**
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

**Internalizing - Depression**
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

**Externalizing Behaviors**
- 6th Grade
- 7th Grade
- 8th Grade

Note: Scale ranges from 1 to 3
Program Updates — Positive Action

- Served all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders in 13 Robeson County Middle Schools.
- Worked with 55 teachers who taught the program.
- Interviewed Principals and PA teachers at the end of the year. They were very positive about the program. Principals tell us they see disciplinary referrals to the main office decreasing and attribute this to PA.
- NC-ACE sponsored essay and drawing contests to highlight Positive Action themes.
Positive Action Implementation

**Fairgrove Middle**

- Radford (6) - 73
- Waddell (7) - 51
- Kirkwood (8) - 55

**Littlefield Middle**

- Hayes Locklear (6) - 73
- Cromartie (7) - 51
- Wyvis Oxendine (8) - 45

**Completed Lessons**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Completed Lessons</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Fairgrove Middle</td>
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<td>Radford</td>
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<td>73</td>
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<td>Waddell</td>
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<td>51</td>
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<td>Kirkwood</td>
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<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Littlefield Middle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hayes Locklear</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cromartie</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyvis Oxendine</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>45</td>
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</table>
• From October 1 through June 30, 2013 we have had 93 parents complete PW.
• Waitlist Control Group: 55 parents recruited, completed pretests and posttests (3 months later)
• Wanda Hammonds resigned as PW Coordinator in January to go back to UNC-Pembroke.
• Groups: Groups are offered in schools, churches, and agencies such as housing authorities across the county.
• Compensation: Parents receive $10 for completing each assessment (pretest, posttest, 6 month followup) and $10 for completing the program = $40.
A synopsis of work of the
NC Academic Center for Excellence in
Youth Violence Prevention’s targeted
restorative justice intervention for the
youth of Robeson County.
Program Updates – Teen Court

- Total PY2: 100 Referrals [83 Hearings]
- Total PY3: 191 Referrals [142 Hearings]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>SRO Referrals</th>
<th>Court Counselor Referrals</th>
<th>Law Enforcement Referrals</th>
<th>District Court Referrals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>December</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>January</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>February</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Defendant Update — Teen Court

• From October 1, 2011 to July 25, 2013
  291 referrals to the RC Teen Court
  228 hearings conducted (ten awaiting court hearings).

• From October 1, 2012 to July 26, 2013
  142 defendants had hearings. They contributed **1520 hours** of community service.

• Of the **228 hearings** only **10 defendants** had repeat offenses within 6 months of exiting the program (95.5% success rate).

• We have **conducted 185 workshops** since October 1, 2012
From October 1, 2012 through July 26\textsuperscript{th}, 2013 we have recruited and trained 238 volunteers who have volunteered 1629 hours to Teen Court.

**Youth Volunteers (12-18):** 125 youth volunteers recruited and trained since August of 2012

**Youth Volunteers (18-21):** 33 youth volunteers recruited and trained June of 2012

**Adult Volunteers (over 21):** the Chief District Court Judge, the Clerk of Court and 9 licensed attorneys serve as teen court judges;

5 Adult Community Volunteers serve as courtroom managers, bailiffs or jury deliberation facilitators

16 undergraduate interns and 8 MSW graduate students received educational training, mentoring and work experience since the program began in August of 2011.
Four volunteers have reached silver level status for the Presidential Volunteer Service Award;
   Cameron Zabitosky (105 Hrs),
   Elizabeth Keenum (113 hours),
   John Lanier (113 Hrs),
   Donald Scott (145 Hrs) is on track to receive the Gold level award for 250+ Hrs.

On track to receive a bronze level award:
   Nora Oxendine and Michael Jones

Meredith Bower (500+ hrs.) has reached the Gold level award.
William Archevald (103 hrs) has earned a bronze level award.