



What the NYS Parenting Education Partnership Means by “Evidence-Based”

Evidence-based practice integrates the best available research evidence with practitioner experience and expertise, and is consistent with community and family values and characteristics.

Evidence-based practices are skills, techniques, and strategies that have been shown to reliably produce desirable effects and can be used individually or in combination to form more complex procedures or programs.

Evidence-based programs are based in theory, supported by research evidence (scientific evaluation), and have proven effective in community settings.

- They may be listed as “promising” vs “proven” or “exemplary,” etc., terms which describe the program’s evaluation, i.e. research design, number of trials, level of statistical significance of the findings.

CAVEATS

Evidence-Based Programs and Practices improve the likelihood that positive results will occur. Science is a more reliable indicator of what works than intuition or experience. However:

- Nothing works for everything. (What outcomes are sought? What is the target population, the context?)
- Nothing works for everyone all the time. (Impacted by consumers’ readiness, capacity & experience; provider’s skill and resources of the provider; community and environmental characteristics and occurrences.)

Fidelity Matters, i.e., when implementing a research-based program or intervention, closely follow the protocols and techniques that are defined as part of the intervention. Fidelity refers not only to whether or not all the intervention components and activities were actually implemented, but whether they were implemented in the proper manner.

References

- *Evidence Based Practice (EBP) Literature Review*, Prevent Child Abuse America, March 16, 2006
- *Evidence-Based Practice At-A-Glance Brief*, prepared by Domi Oshana for Prevent Child Abuse America Technical Assistance Call for Chapters, February 13, 2006
- *Evidence-Based Research and Practice*, FAP Guide To Prevention Programming
- *Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices*, <http://www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/>
- *California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (CEBC)*, <http://www.cebc4cw.org/>
- *Promising Practices Network on Children, Families and Communities*, <http://www.promisingpractices.net/>
- *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Model Program Guide*, <http://www2.dsgonline.com/mpg/Default.aspx>
- *National Implementation Research Network*, <http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~nirn/default.cfm>