

# MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS LEARNING SERIES

## Equity Strand

### *Initiative Mapping: Increasing efficiency, effectiveness and equity in divisions and schools, Presented by Sophia Farmer*

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#### Webinar Summary:

Increasingly schools are trying to do more with fewer resources. Initiative or resource mapping allows divisions, schools and other organizations to take inventory of current practices and programs, evaluate them for effectiveness and efficiency, ensure equitable distribution of resources and communicate and collaborate with other organizations for shared implementation capacity. Initiative mapping is an important implementation activity when divisions are seeking to select, de-select or enhance the work they are doing for successful student outcomes.

#### Resources:

- For more information on VTSS please visit: [Virginia Tiered Systems of Supports](#).
- For more information on successful implementation strategies visit the State Implementation and Scaling-up of Evidence-based Practices - AI Hub: [National Implementation Research Network](#).
- [National Implementation Research Network](#), Coming soon: a new lesson on how to complete and analyze an initiative inventory!

#### References:

- Fixsen, D. L., Blase, K. A., Metz, A., & Van Dyke, M. (2015). Implementation science. In J. D. Wright (Ed.), *International encyclopedia of the social and behavioral sciences* (2nd ed., Vol. 11, pp. 695-702). Oxford: Elsevier, Ltd.

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- Fixsen D.L., Naoom S.F., Blase K.A., et al. Implementation research: A synthesis of the literature. University of South Florida, Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute, National Implementation Research Network. (FMHI Publication No. 231), Tampa, FL2005

### Discussion Guide:

1. What data does your division, school or organization use to identify the needs of your target population? Identify needs BEFORE mapping initiatives!
2. Does your division, school or organization currently have a way to map or inventory practices or programs (hint: other names include – initiative mapping, asset mapping, resource mapping, etc.)? How does it look similar or different to the process in this presentation?
3. What are the benefits of completing an initiative inventory for your organization? Who should be invited to participate? Why? How could this be communicated?
4. What supports might you need to be able to facilitate an initiative inventory or resource map?
5. What is the next step you could take to get started with initiative mapping?
6. Initiative mapping isn't the end of the story. Now that you know WHAT you have, determine where there are gaps in the instruction, intervention and/or services offered. Document them with your team and/or colleagues.
7. Determine where you are duplicating efforts. Do you have more than two initiatives to address the same need? Are they all necessary? What adaptive strategies could be used to 'de-implement' something that is no longer needed in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of what you offer?
8. How can the initiative inventory be utilized to ensure equity of access and opportunities for our students or clients?