Conducting a School Health Needs Assessment
Linking Health and Education while Building Support

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CENTER FOR HEALTHY SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES

LIVERMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUILDING A BRIGHT FUTURE

Welcome!

Introductions

Livermore School Health Initiative

Goal: To strengthen the capacity of Livermore to provide a continuum of high quality, accessible school-linked health and wellness supports to youth and families

Key Partners:

- School District
- County Supervisor
- County Health Care Services Agency
- City of Livermore
- Kaiser

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. School Health Needs Assessment Process
   - Developing a Solid Plan

3. Stakeholder Engagement
   - Who, Why, How

4. Lessons Learned from Livermore

5. Wrap up and Toolkit

Turn to a Partner

What do you want to learn about the needs in your school or community that brought you here today?

School Health
Needs Assessment Process

Purpose and Goals

Phases of the Process
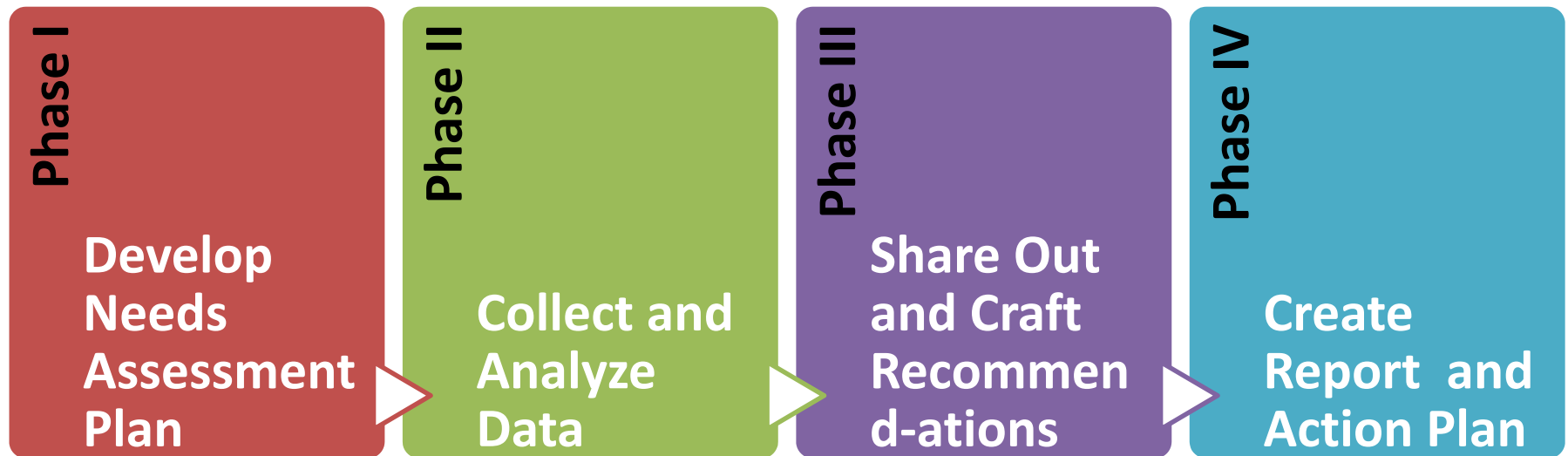
Guiding Framework

Focus on the Planning Phase

Purpose and Goals

To identify and prioritize the assets and unmet school health needs of students and their families
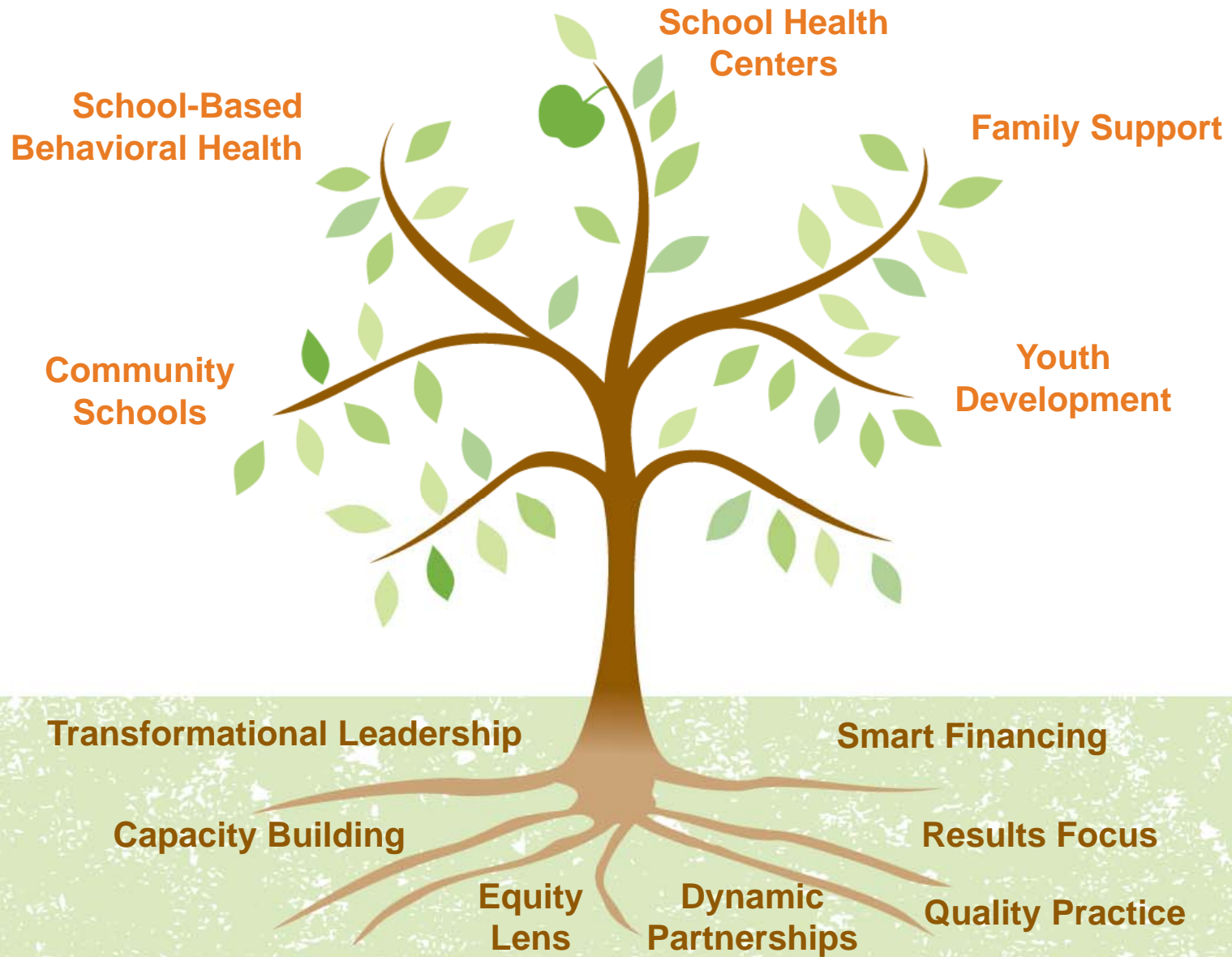
Goals:

- Provide a focused assessment of school health services

- Identify unmet needs and assets

- Explore in-depth the needs and assets of populations traditionally underrepresented in broader community needs assessments

- Engage key stakeholder groups in a process that builds their interest and involvement in future services

- Inspire key decision-makers to build support and school health systems, e.g. board of education, principals, advisory boards, funders, etc.

Needs Assessment Phases

Phase I — Develop Needs Assessment Plan

Phase II — Collect and Analyze Data

Phase III — Share Out and Craft Recommend-ations

Phase IV — Create Report and Action Plan

Our Framework

School Health Centers

School-Based Behavioral Health

Family Support

Community Schools

Youth Development

Transformational Leadership

Smart Financing

Capacity Building

Results Focus

Equity Lens

Dynamic Partnerships

Quality Practice

Importance of Planning

Core Leadership Team

- Who do you involve and why?
- What is their role?

Outcome of the Planning Phase

1. A project plan with data collection plan
2. Draft instruments
3. Stakeholder input

Livermore
Results of Planning Phase

| Target Stakeholder	Guiding Questions	Responsible Person(s)
SURVEYS		
Student Survey	• What are the community assets and strengths related to school health services? (i.e. what programs/assets do they use?) • Quality of current services? What are the current unmet health needs? Which are most pressing/common? • What are the barriers to access and services? Ideas for removing them? • If we could fund the building of a Youth Wellness Center, what programs and services would be priority/used?	District – Scott and Cat • General and targeted • All MS and HS, some upper elementary • Afterschool prgs • Spanish speaking • Low & middle income
Parent Survey	• What are the community assets and strengths related to school health? • Quality of current services? Cultural competence of providers? • What are the current unmet health needs? Which are most pressing/common? (For children and for adults??) • What are the barriers to access and services? (Ideas for removing those barriers - Open-ended question or focus group) • If we could fund the building of Youth Wellness Center, what programs and services would be priority/used by students? By families?	District – Scott and Cat • Community Outreach Workers • ESS (LARPD asp) Other partners?

Livermore
Benefits of Planning Phase

1. ## Helped assessment be relevant and focused

   - Personalized the questions to Livermore community
   - Targeted the outreach – who did we need to hear from?

2. ## Helped engage youth, families, staff and providers

   - Time and framework for input on surveys from youth and parents
   - Involving parent outreach coord early gave access to families

3. ## Strengthened relationship among partners

   - City and county at the table gave access to previous work
   - Leveraged connections and relationships of everyone on the core team to help administer assessment and next steps

Your Turn

Reflect and write down some ideas about the planning process, such as:

- Who would you involve in your core team and why

- Goals of your assessment

- Guiding questions – what you want to know

- Structures you already have in place that can be used to support outreach and data collection
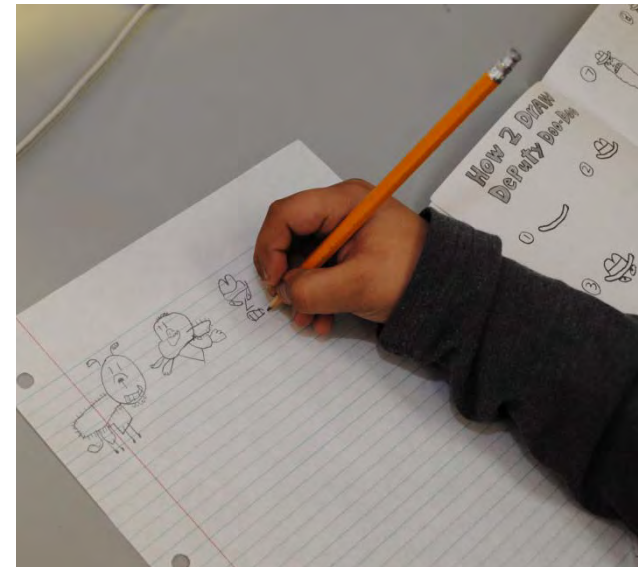
Stakeholder Engagement

Key Stakeholders

- Who should be engaged?

- Why is it important to engage that stakeholder group in the needs assessment process?

- How will engagement in the process help your school health initiative?

Gallery Walk

Lessons Learned in Livermore

Lessons Learned

- Commitment from district leadership

- Focus groups bring data to life

- Use online surveys when possible

- Dramatic differences across groups in some areas

- Reaching groups that are traditionally under-engaged

- Youth leadership

- Key interviews important for engagement and roots

What's Next for Livermore

Recommended goals, based on gaps and assets:

1. Expand universal health access

2. Build a comprehensive district-wide school-based behavioral health system

3. Strengthen high quality culturally competent practices

4. Develop a well-coordinated system of school health services

5. Create youth-centered space for wellness & leadership

Coming This Summer!

Thank you!

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