Renewing Promise:
An Analysis of the Effects of Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports in New Hampshire High Schools

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Dropout nation...

- What is the national dropout rate?
  - 30%

- What is the dropout rate for students with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders?
  - 50%
“Unclaimed children”...

- **Emotional and Behavioral Disorders (EBD)**
  - Anxiety
  - Major depression
  - Opposition defiant/conduct disorders
  - ADHD
  - Learning disorders
  - ...and the list goes on...

- **20% of youth have a diagnosable disorder**
Importance of schools

- Majority of interventions begin/supports are provided in schools
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- Individual Education Plan (IEP)
- 70% - 80% of disorders are untreated
- How do we fill the gap?
School-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SW-PBIS)...

- Tertiary Prevention (Tier III)
- Secondary Prevention (Tier II)
- Universal Interventions (80%)
- Intensive Individual Interventions (5%)
- Targeted Group Interventions (15%)

The PBIS Pyramid

- Academic
- Behavioral

Primary Prevention (Tier I)
Rehabilitation for Empowerment, Natural Supports, Education, and Work (RENEW)

- Youth guided/family driven process
- Person-centered planning
- Building support team in school, at home, and in community
- Meaningful life opportunities
Research question and hypothesis...

- “Does the RENEW intervention provide statistically significant positive outcomes?”

- Hypothesis:
  - RENEW students will have statistically significant lower rates of ODRs, absences, and suspensions
Research design...

- Calculate SPSS change scores between first and last period data
  - Control by time in intervention (by 3 or 4 periods)
  - Aggregated Positive Outcome (percentage “decreased” and “unchanged”) (APO)
3-period sample outcomes
33 students from 2 high schools

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### 4-period sample outcomes

**13 students from 2 high schools**

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APEX staff interview themes...

- Can RENEW work without full implementation of SW-PBIS?
Future work...

- Moving beyond this preliminary study...

- Focus on measuring qualitative experience of students, families, school faculty and staff through surveys/interviews

- Data analysis with control group of non-RENEW students to check for statistically-significant outcomes
Discussion and implications…

- Data reflects high aggregated positive outcomes for rate of ODRs, suspensions, and absences

- Importance of further research for SW-PBIS and RENEW success

- Continued importance of youth-guided and family-driven interventions
Acknowledgements...

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- Dr. Julie Simpson and the UNH IRB
- To everyone here today

...for your support of this research!
Questions?