Using GIS in Planning Behavioral Health Preventive Services

William F. Wieczorek, Ph.D., CRA
Alan Delmerico, M.A.
Sheldon J. Tetewsky, MIS, Ph.D.
Kelly S. Marczynski, Ph.D.
Karl E. Wende, Ph.D
Center for Health and Social Research
Buffalo State College
1300 Elmwood Ave.
Buffalo. NY 14222

Presentation at the 2009 ESRI Health GIS Conference, Sept. 21-23, Nashville, TN

Health Impact of Mental Illness & Alcohol/Drugs

- Global Burden of Disease (Murray & Lopez, 1996)
 - Include non-fatal health outcomes
 - Remove focus from mortality only
- Disability-adjusted Life Years (DALYS)
 - Basic metric in global burden methodology
- $DALY_i = YLL_i + YLD_i$
 - YLL = Years of life lost
 - YLD = Years lived with disability
 - Adjusted for the severity of the disability (quality of life)
 - 1 DALY = loss of 1 year of full health
 - Comparable and additive across illnesses

Health Impact of Mental Illness & Alcohol/Drugs

- Burden of disease attributable to mental illness/substance use disorders expected to rise from 12.3% in 2000 to 14.7% in 2020 (Murray & Lopez, 1997 Lancet)
- Tobacco (4.1%) & alcohol (4.0%) are the 4th and 5th leading risk factors worldwide for burden of disease (Rodgers et al. 2004 PLoS)
- Tobacco and alcohol are the first and second leading risk factors for North America (Said & Wegman, 2007)

General Themes for Planning Behavioral Health Prevention

 How do you change a system, (CD prevention) from one in which services are provided at locations where agencies were invited to be, to a system that is responsive to areas and populations with the greatest need for services?

Note: CD=chemical dependence

General Themes for Planning Behavioral Health Prevention

 How do we develop a system in which service provider decisions about their programs are based on information and data, rather than notions, beliefs, and previous practice (e.g., we've always done it this way).

Mission of Planning Process

- To develop a CD/MI prevention system that is responsive to general as well as differentiated population risk factors.
- To create a system of assessment that drives:
 - (a) decision making about where to provide programs (needs assessment)
 - (b) how providers assess the impact and delivery of their programs
 - (c) the examination of the actual impact of the services on key outcomes in subareas of Erie County, NY.

Comprehensive Prevention Plan

- Interactive planning process
 - CHSR, ECDMH, all CD/MH providers
 - Sustained planning effort
- Driven by data and provider knowledge and experience
 - Also PARIS, OASAS, SAMHSA
- Inclusive of CD and mental illness prevention
- Focus: Achieving excellence for our prevention system

Utilization of GIS Analyses and Maps in the Planning Process

- Maps and related geographic analyses were used as relevant background information.
- The planning participants utilized the GIS info, as well as their professional experience, training, and other information known to them, to
 - identify challenges for the prevention system
 - to brainstorm responses to those challenges
 - to develop prevention system priorities
 - to identify general principles on how to plan, deliver, and assess prevention services.



Risk Indicator Database (**RIDB**)

- Purpose: To provide valid, archival data to be used for needs assessment, especially to identify populations at higher risk for CD
- Initiated in 2001, updated and enhanced continually since then.

Development of RIDB

- Identification of archival data [census, health, crime, alc availability etc.]
- Validation of the small area [tracts, zip codes] version of indicators using Erie County Health Outcomes survey data
- Matching the indicators to the Hawkins/Catalano risk and protective factor model (PX model used by OASAS)

RIDB Utilization

- Providers overcame fear of objective needs assessment information
- Learning community of providers/ECDMH/CHSR/other agencies was developed
- Utilization of RIDB required a simple user interface [even basic searching by zip/census tract was difficult for most providers], additional assistance was needed to interpret the RIDB risk factors

RIDB Software Example I

Main Navigation Screen



- The main navigation screen for the RIDB web interface explains the content and links available in the **Help Center** and **Planning Tools.**
- The Help Center provides detailed instructions for using the database and interpreting the results, technical documentation for the indicators, and a downloadable MS Excel version of the database.
- Planning Tools provides links to the analytical components of the web interface via the *Risk Analysis* link, as well as access to maps of the indicators and tools for identifying ZIP codes of interest.

RIDB Software Example II Risk Analysis Erie County Risk Indicator Database By the Center for Health and Social Research Input ZIP code of HELP CENTER Enter Zip Code for Analysis: 14222 interest Using the Database Select the indicators you want to see : Choose the desired Hawkins & Catalano Categories View Indicator Definition indicators for analysis Availability of Drugs Off premise alcohol sales establishments, per 10,000 (the default setting is population (Community Laws and Norms Favorable to Drug Use, Firearms all indicators) (alc_off_pr_pop) and Crime) PLANNING TOOLS Availability of Drugs Off premise alcohol sales establishments, per road Risk Analysis mile **~** (Community Laws and Norms Favorable to Drug Use, Firearms (alc_off_pr_rd) and Crime) **Descriptions for each** Crime Index [2002-2004 average annual reported criminal mischief offenses, per 10,000 population, indicator, including its 2002-2004 average annual reported drug offenses, Favorable Paternal Attitudes and per 10,000 population, 2002-2004 average annual denominator (e.g. per Involvement in Problem Behavior **~** reported violent offenses (aggravated assault, forcible rape, murder, and robbery), per 10,000 (Substance Abuse, Delinquency) 10,000 population) population] (crime index) Favorable Paternal Attitudes and 2002-2004 average annual reported criminal Involvement in Problem Behavior mischief offenses, per 10,000 population (Low Neighborhood Attachment (crm_crmis) and Community Disorganization) 2001-2003 average annual deaths from cirrhosis, per Family History of Problem -10,000 population Behavior **~** (de_cirrhos) The variable name for Youth Problem Behavior Index (2001-2003 average Family Management Problems, annual pregnancies of mother's ages 15-19, per the indicators are 10,000 population, 2002-2004 average annual (Early and Persistent Antisocial juvenile (age below 18) arrests for violent offenses Behavior, Lack of Commitment to listed in parentheses (aggravated assault, forcible rape, murder, and School, Alienation and robbery), per 10,000 population below age 18, 2004 Rebelliousness, Academic Grade 8 English (ELA) poor performance (levels 1-2), Failure Beginning in Late percent of all students tested, 2004 student Elementary School, Early Initiation suspensions, percent of enrollment) of Problem Behavior, Teen Pregnancy) (youth_index) Composite Poverty Index Extreme Economic Deprivation **~** (z_pov) Click the Show Report Show Report button to produce the output table for the Hawkins and Catalano model categories selected ZIP code

that are associated with the indicator

Se

RIDB Software Example III

Output Table





RIDB Example Map II







RIDB Example Map - Updates Areas II



Prevention Gaps Analysis

- Are all areas of the County receiving prevention programming?
 - What types of programs?
- How do programs match to the community risks/need?
- Mapped prevention programs by type and compared to RIDB.

Erie County Prevention Programs by Zip Code: Prevention Programs (Any Age Level and Program Type)









Impact of Gaps Analysis

 Showed scope of need for broader prevention coverage

- -PX type (ATOD vs other), age group
- Provided tangible evidence that much needed to be done (no areas had full comprehensive prevention coverage)
- Utilized in the development of the comprehensive plan
 - Drove discussion about what the system is, where it is, what it should accomplish

System Outcomes and Impact Assessment

- System impact assessment
 - beyond the scope of agency-level evaluation
- Major challenges for system assessment – especially at sub-county level
 - lack of readily available data
 - need for trend/comparative analysis
- Focus on major impact—does PX/TX services affect crucial outcomes

PX/TX System Impact Approach

- Develop contiguous sub-county regions
- Population sufficient for stable yearly estimates – allows trend analysis
- Measures selected to match SAMHSA national outcomes measures (NOMs)
 - Key areas: reduced morbidity, crime/CJ, educational outcomes, capacity
- Initial assessment utilized archival data – Dept of Health, CPS, Dept of Education
- Future plan to add sub-region surveys





Region	Population
Buffalo	276,059
Northtowns	252,016
East Suburbs	173,968
Southtowns	127,095
Northeast. Rural	52,160
Southern Tier	40,092

Trend Example: <21 Arrests

Under 21 Arrest Rate



Northeastern Rural

Miles

12

6

9



Trend Example: Adol. Preg.

Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (Ages 15-19) (City of Buffalo Excluded)



www.buffalostate.edu





www.buffalostate.edu



How to Use PX/TX Impact Info

Compare subcounty regions with the trends for the County as a whole.

- Compare the trends in subcounty areas with the type and number of prevention services being provided to assess whether services are adequate.
- Compare the overall trends in Erie County with other counties of similar composition (e.g., Monroe, Onondaga).
- Add survey data from subcounty regions
- Assess for convergent impact

Comprehensive Prevention Plan

Erie County Department of

Mental Health

2009-2012



Components of Comprehensive Plan

- 1. Process of Developing the Plan
- 2. Mission Statement Summary
- 3. Providing Prevention Services: Goals and Guiding Strategy
- 4. Environmental Prevention Strategy
- 5. System Impact and Outcomes
- 6. System Coordination and Collaboration
- 7. System Development
- 8. Chemical Dependency/Mental Health Career Enrichment

Selected Plan Details: Mission System Goals (SG):

To delay alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) use and the onset of unhealthy problem behaviors (including, but not limited to, gambling, violence, and other anti-social behaviors); to prevent ATOD abuse/dependence and mental illness; to promote and maintain mentally and physically healthy, and socially and culturally competent, people. (SG1)

- To provide a continuum of prevention services (universal, selective, indicated) (SG2)
- Specific statements on target populations and prevention resources
- Each section in plan specifically linked to the mission

Selected Plan Details (Sec 3 Prov. PX Serv.)

- Reach the entire population of Erie County with some prevention services, which will require the coordination of environmental prevention approaches and direct delivery prevention programming.
- Align the most intensive prevention services (i.e., multi-session, ongoing programs usually delivered in schools) with the geographic areas or populations at highest risk of developing substance abuse and mental health problems, as defined by the risk and protective factor approach

Selected Plan Details (Sec 3 Prov. PX Serv.)

 Utilize data sources on risk and protective factors (e.g., archival, Risk Indicator Data Base [RIDB, a source on subareas of Erie County for archival data aligned with the risk and protective factor model], key informants, focus groups, surveys) to justify changes in target population.

Conclusions: GIS and Behavioral Health Planning

- GIS provides key information for behavioral health planning
- GIS expertise alone is insufficient—content knowledge is crucial
- GIS well-suited for a collaborative process
 - Fosters buy-in from participants
 - Drives interactive process
- Need to work closely with government agencies and service providers
- Match GIS analyses to the process

The End!