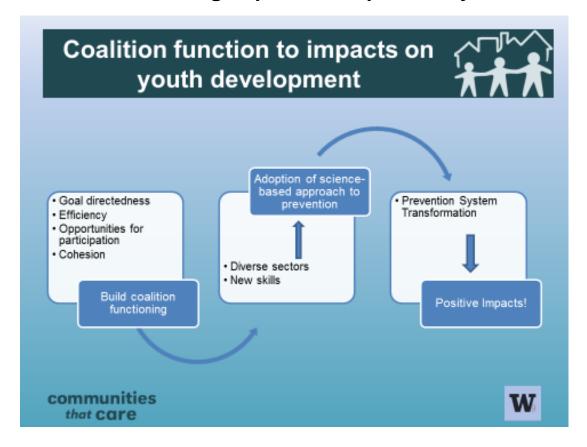
## **Coalition Functioning Matters!**

## From coalition functioning to positive impacts on youth development



A community-level outcome, the degree of a community's adoption of a science-based approach to prevention, is a key system transformation variable that has been found to fully mediate the effects of CTC on youth problem behaviors (Brown et al., 2014). Relatedly, two coalition capacities, involvement of diverse community sectors in the CTC process and board members' acquisition of new skills, have been found to predict communities' adoption of a science-based approach to prevention (Shapiro, Oesterle, & Hawkins, 2015b), while four dimensions of coalition functioning (goal directedness, efficiency, opportunities for participation, and cohesion) have strong relationships with these two key coalition capacities (Shapiro, Hawkins, & Oesterle, 2015a).

Brown, Eric C., Hawkins, J. David, Rhew, Isaac C., Shapiro, Valerie B., Abbott, Robert D., Oesterle, Sabrina, Arthur, Michael W., Briney, John S., Catalano, Richard F. (2014). **Prevention system mediation of Communities That Care effects on youth outcomes.** *Prevention Science*, *15*(5), 623-632.

Shapiro, Valerie B., Oesterle, Sabrina, Hawkins, J. David (2015). **Relating coalition capacity to the adoption of science-based prevention in communities: Evidence from a randomized trial of Communities That Care.** <u>American Journal of Community Psychology, 55(1-2), 1-12</u>.

Shapiro, Valerie B., Hawkins, J. David, Oesterle, Sabrina (2015). **Building local infrastructure for community adoption of science-based prevention: The role of coalition functioning.** <u>Prevention Science, 16(8), 1136-1146</u>.



## **Coalition Functioning Matters!**

Predicting communities' adoption of science-based prevention	
Involvement of diverse community sectors in the CTC process	Average of 13 questions about different sectors' involvement (very involved to not at all involved) in the coalition's work:  1. Elected leaders 2. Parents 3. School teachers/staff 4. School district administrators 5. Social service providers 6. Students 7. Business leaders 8. Faith leaders 9. Law enforcement 10. Media representatives 11. Recreation officials 12. Community volunteers 13. Unelected leaders
Coalition members' acquisition of new skills	Average of 3 questions that ask if they have benefited (a great deal to not at all) from learning new skills in:  1. organization and communication 2. changing local politics 3. designing and carrying out prevention programs
Four dimensions of coalition function that build key predictors above	
	reverse coded for analyses)
Goal directedness	<ol> <li>The CTC leadership:         <ul> <li>adheres to the decision-making procedures</li> <li>has control of meetings</li> <li>has a clear vision for the coalition</li> </ul> </li> <li>Team has agreed how to govern itself and make decisions</li> <li>CTC board has developed clear goals and objectives</li> </ol>
Efficiency	<ol> <li>Board members work very hard</li> <li>This is a highly efficient, work-oriented board</li> <li>There's a lot of time wasted because of inefficiencies</li> <li>The CTC board is organized and efficient</li> <li>The group is able to move from talk to action</li> <li>This board rarely has anything concrete to show for its efforts</li> </ol>
Opportunities for participation	<ol> <li>The CTC leadership asks you to assist with specific tasks</li> <li>The CTC leadership intentionally seeks out your views</li> <li>The CTC board uses the abilities of all, not just a few</li> <li>Everyone is involved in the discussion, not just a few</li> </ol>
Cohesion	<ol> <li>There is not much group spirit among this board</li> <li>There is a sense of unity and cohesion in our board</li> <li>People involved with the CTC board come to the meetings</li> </ol>