



Adaptation of an Evidence-Based Model by Context and Culture: A Case Study of the US-Based YAPWrap® Services Model

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Abstract

Understanding the successes and challenges in adapting evidence-based interventions in new contexts is growing in interest by both researchers and practitioners (Wiltsey-Stirman & Baumann, 2019). The processes and outcomes of adaptations including the kinds of adaptations that increase the likelihood of intervention success in new contexts have not been well researched (Baumann, Cabassa & Stirman, 2017; Stirman, Miller, Toder & Calloway, 2017). In this study, we use The Frame, an expanded template for reporting adaptations (Stirman, Baumann & Miller, 2019) to study the adaptation of the US-based YAPWrap® services model of Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. (YAP*) for high-risk young people in US and Global contexts. Using multi-method data collection strategies, we take a retrospective look describing aspects of the core model that were adapted; how they were adapted; the reasons for the adaptation and the impacts of adaptations on model fidelity. Findings reveal the importance of a core set of unifying model values and principles that help guide model adaptations and serve as fidelity protective factors. Model adaptations that build off local contextual assets to create innovative implementation strategies are identified. The diversity of site adaptations provides an excellent opportunity for mutual learning and ways to enhance fit into new contexts. Paper recommendations will inform the launch of YAP's Global Leadership Institute designed to enhance adaptation processes and further cross-cultural learning. Additional research questions and study methods are offered to build the knowledge-based of model adaptation reporting and implementation.

Key words: Core values, High-risk youth, Implementation science, Model fidelity, Cross-cultural learning, Global South