### 2024 ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY PREVENTION GRANTEE CONFERENCE



## BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES WITH TODAY'S YOUTH LEADERS

JUNE 25-27 | SAN FRANCISCO, CA



## Field-tested Strategies for Supporting Youth Well-being: Lessons from Ohio (State PREP)

Lauren McHenry, Nationwide Children's Hospital
Tyler Arvin, Nationwide Children's Hospital
Maurice Cole, Cuyahoga County Board of Health





U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Children, Youth and Families (ACYF) Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program Grantee Conference The views expressed in written training materials, publications, or presentations by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.



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Lauren McHenry (she/her)
Nationwide Children's Hospital
Ohio PREP Districts 3 and 5
Lauren.McHenry@nationwidechildrens.org





Maurice Cole (he/him)
Cuyahoga County Board of Health
Ohio PREP District 2
MCole@ccbh.net

CUYAHOGA COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH
YOUR TRUSTED SOURCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION



Tyler Arvin (he/him)

Nationwide Children's Hospital
Ohio PREP District 5

Tyler.Arvin@nationwidechildrens.org

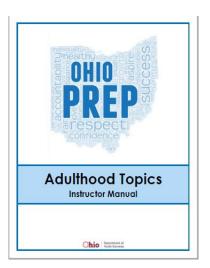


## **Learning Objectives**

- 1. After viewing this presentation, participants will be able to demonstrate the need for employing youth well-being practices through an understanding of the current national state of youth mental health and well-being.
- 2. After viewing this presentation, participants will be able to identify at least three distinct strategies (mindfulness practices) for supporting youth well-being that were employed by Ohio PREP in a variety of implementation settings.
- 3. After viewing this presentation, participants will be able to identify the benefits of integrating youth well-being practices within APP programming as observed by Ohio PREP facilitators.

### We are Ohio PREP:

Ohio PREP targets youth that are involved in the juvenile justice system and/or child welfare system, who attend alternative schools, and/or who are pregnant or parenting.





#### CUYAHOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.

### Youth Mental Health: A National Crisis

Poor mental health and suicidal thoughts and behaviors are increasing for nearly all groups of youth.

\*CDC's 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Survey



## 1 in 5 children

has a significantly impairing mental disorder; yet

less than half

get the treatment they need\*

\*National Institute of Mental Health

# Mental Well-being and Ohio PREP

- Youth we serve are disproportionately affected by mental health disorders.
- Mental well-being impacts ability to learn, participate in, and enjoy APP programming.
- Mental health has been linked with increased sexual risk behaviors in youth.



## **Integrating Youth Well-being into Practice**

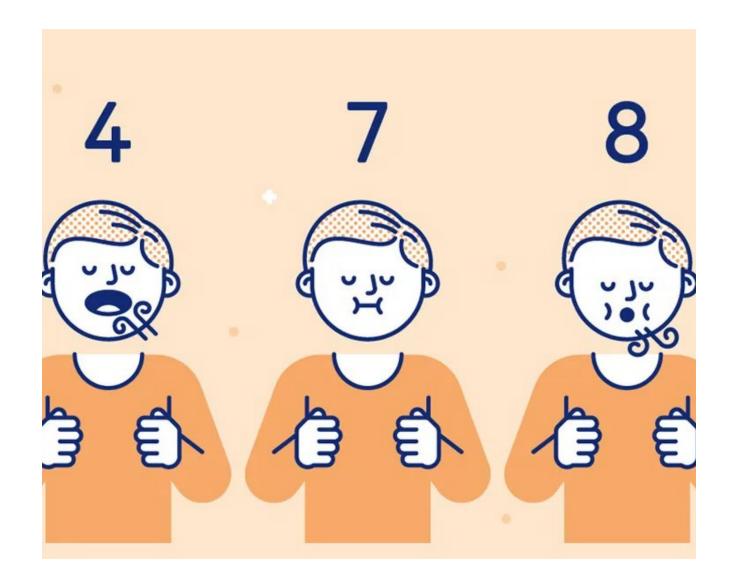


- In the PREP classroom
- During staff trainings
- During professional meetings



## **De-Escalation During Youth Programming**

- 4-7-8 Breathing Technique used during PREP implementation.
- Youth practiced self-regulation through breathwork.



## Let's try a Mindful Moment: "Take 5 Breath"

- 1. Sit up tall and align your spine. Close one hand into a fist.
- 2. As you breathe in, open one finger at a time. When you finish inhaling, your hand is open.
- 3. As you breathe out, close your fingers, one at a time. Breathe out and pull in each finger, closing your hand back into a fist.
- 4. This completes one round of Take 5 Breath. This can be repeated as many rounds as needed.
- 5. Great job practicing Take 5 Breath! What changes do you notice in your brain, body, and breath?

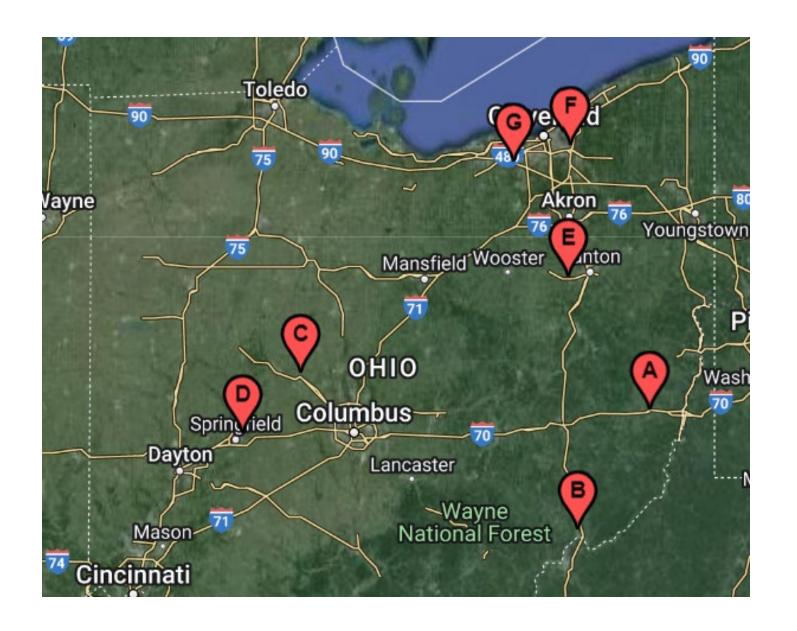




### What is a Wellness Day?

- Builds skills that support well-being
- Creates opportunities for relationship-building, personal growth, and fun
- Engages youth and youthserving professionals in a positive experience
- Normalizes conversations about mental health and well-being

MINDFULNESS is noticing your thoughts, feelings, and physical sensations in the present moment without harmful judgement.



## **Implementation Sites**

- Community-based Residential Campuses (2)
- Community-based Juvenile Correctional Facilities (2)
- DYS Juvenile Correctional Facilities (2)
- Alternative School Classroom (1)

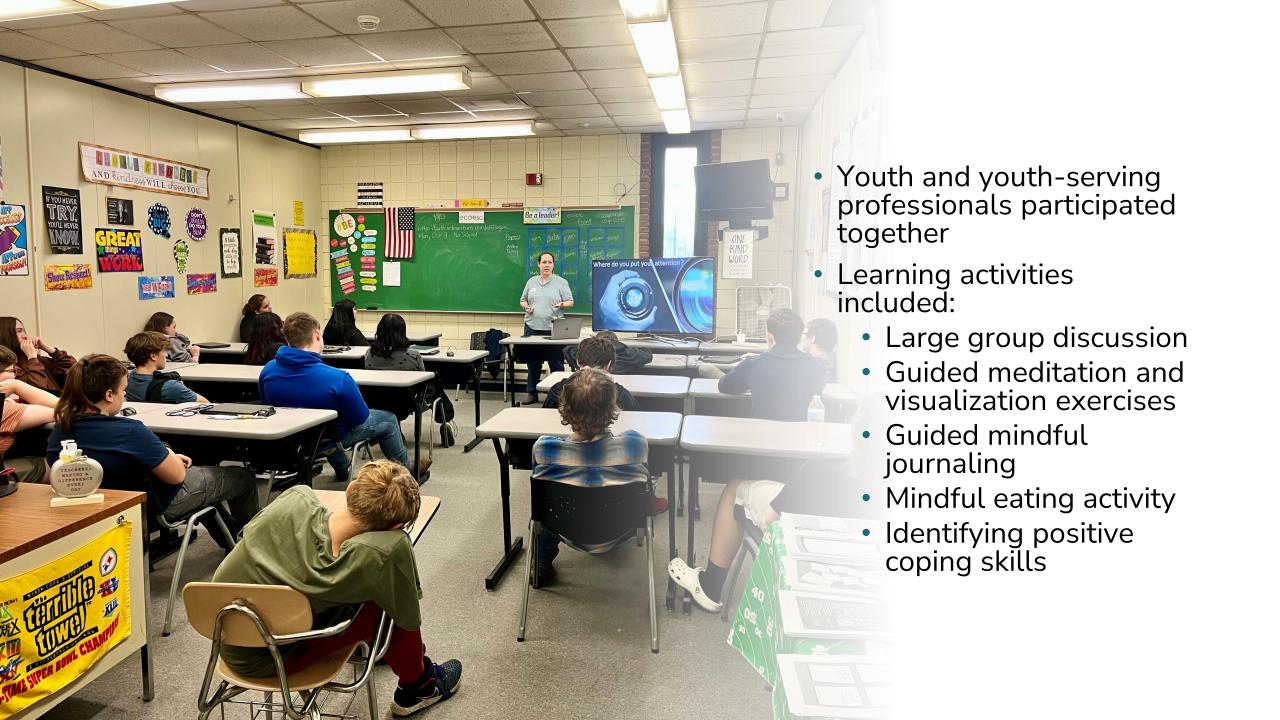
## Stressed Teens and MBSR-T

Founder of Stressed Teens, Gina M. Biegel, LMFT, taught mindfulness-based stress reduction skills and tools at 4 implementation sites.

## MINDFULNESS-BASED SERVICES FOR TEENS, FAMILIES, & PROFESSIONALS

#### ABOUT US:

Stressed Teens offers the evidence-based Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction for Teens (MBSR-T) program in a variety of settings and formats. We teach mindfulness-based interventions and provide skills for pre-teens through late adolescence. MBSR-T can improve youth's functioning and quality of living socially, physically, and psychologically. MBSR-T is adapted from Jon Kabat-Zinn's adult MBSR program.



# **Creating a Positive Experience**







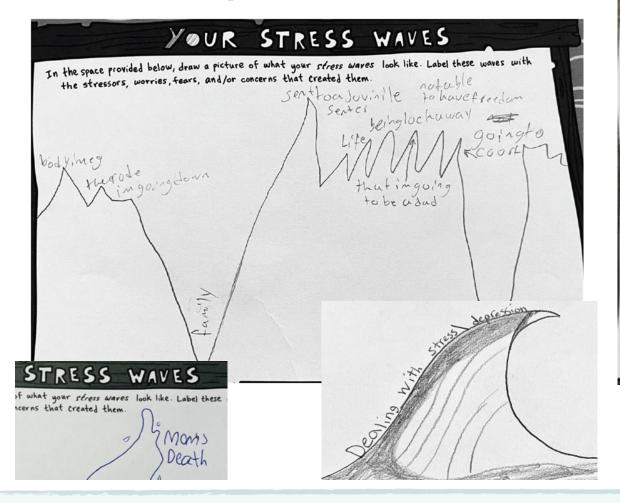


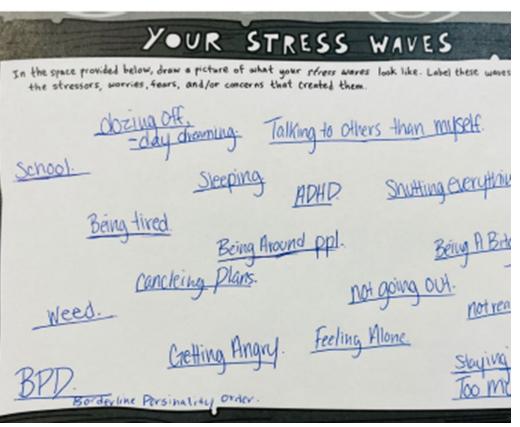
- Allowed youth to choose a special meal
- Wellness-themed giveaway items
- Break from regular school/programming
- Voluntary participation

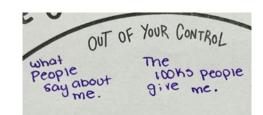


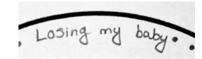


### **Identifying Stressors**



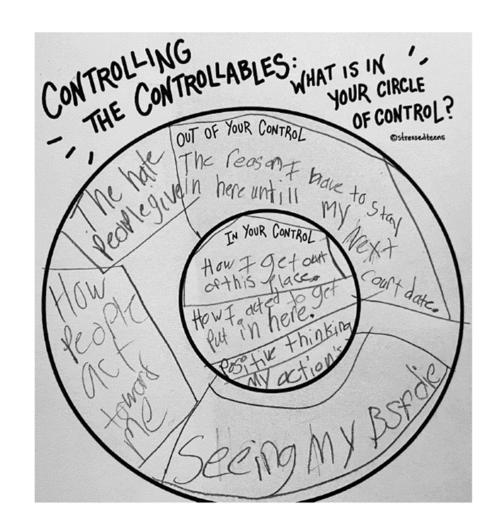




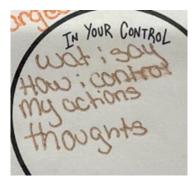




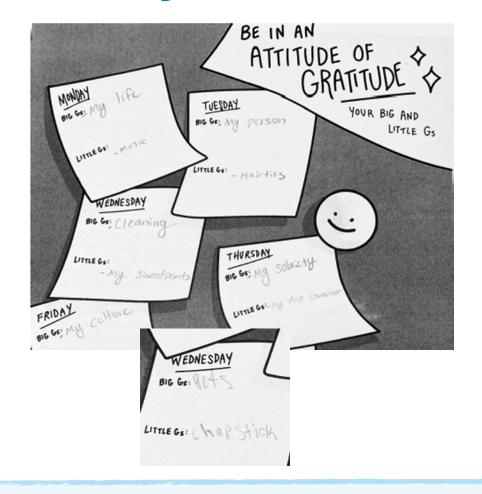
My future Peoples thoughts

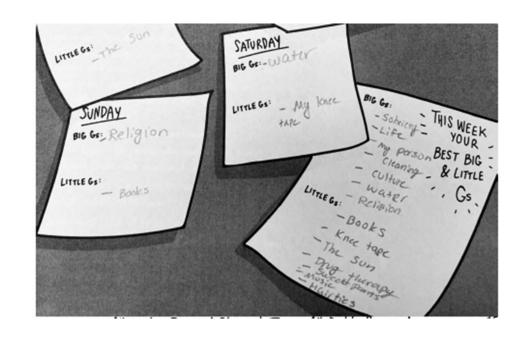






### **Practicing Gratitude**





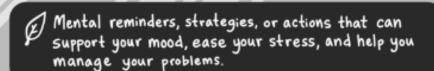








Resources for Parents, Teens, and Professionals



These skills help you deal with, manage, and live your life in healthy ways.

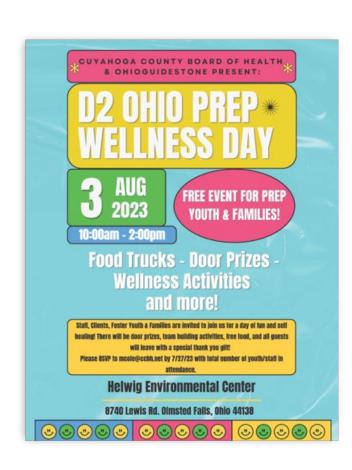
Positive coping skills are also the actions people can engage in that ease their problems and pain, and hopefully make them feel better.

## If you build it, will they come?

- Focus on mindfulness
- Invite PREP family
- Offer incentives
- Provide breakfast/lunch
- Have fun and hope for good weather



## **Mindfulness Practices**





Check in with your emotions



Draw, color, or doodle



Practice breathing techniques



Practice yoga or stretch



Spend extra time outside

Do something today that your future self will thank you for.

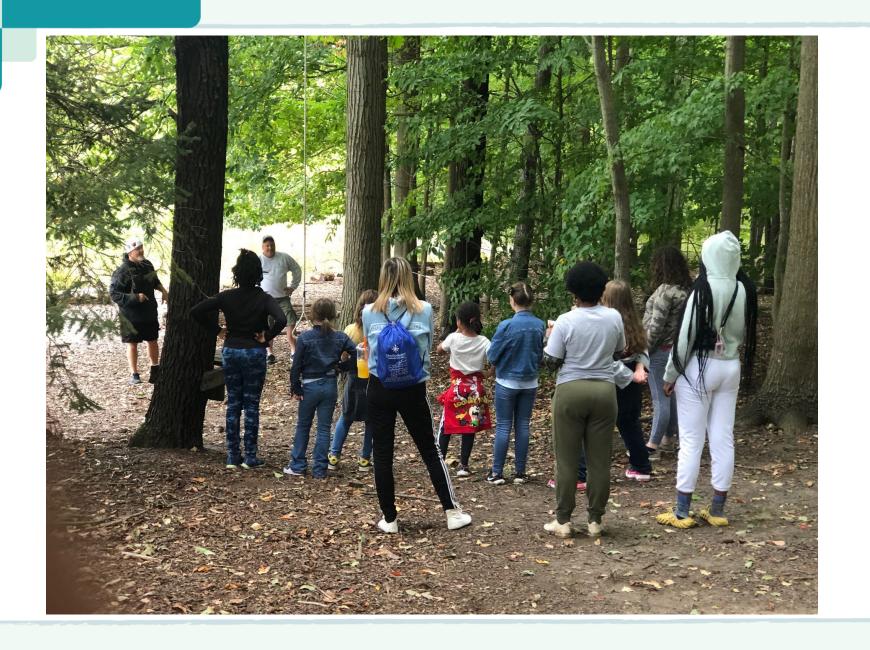




#### **De-escalation Station:**

- Draw or color
- Fidget break
- Puzzle or brain teaser
- Sensory break
- Talk to a trusted adult





Low Ropes Course

### **SLAK CLE**

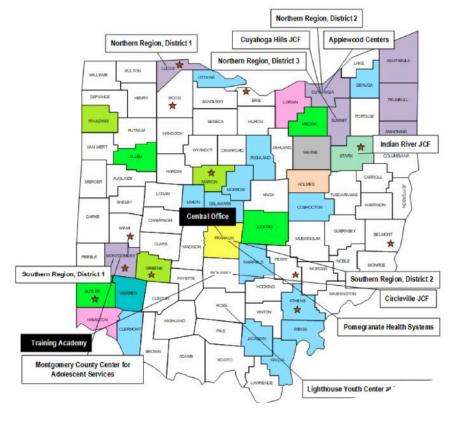
"Elevating mental and physical performance by utilizing balance, speed, agility, strength, and coordination"





Food Trucks - Barrio and Hippie Sips







**Wellness Day at DYS** 





## **Wellness Day at DYS**

- Family support
- Healthy snack
- Mindfulness exercise
- We are Ohio PREP

## Acknowledgements



Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs







ON OUR SLEEVES



**Department of Youth Services** 





#### SERVICES:

10-WEEK CERTIFICATE TRAINING FOR PROFESSIONALS IN MBSR-T 30 CE/CME Credits Available

4-WEEK MINDFULNESS GROUP FOR TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS IN MBSR-T

MINDFULNESS - BASED PSYCHOTHERAPY & COACHING FOR TEENS & FAMILIES WHOLE-SCHOOL MINDFULNESS-BASED SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL (SEL) PROGRAM Year Lona

PROFESSIONAL 1:1 MENTORING AND
PRACTICUM OFFERINGS







**Mindful Moment: Create a Thunderstorm** 

### **Works Cited**

- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS)
- National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Transforming the understanding and treatment of mental illnesses (nih.gov)
- The Movement for Children's Mental Health On Our Sleeves
- Youth Involved with the Juvenile Justice System | Youth.gov
- Quolke, M., Holmstrand, L., & Belkin, S. (2023). Ohio PREP, 2022-2023 federal data evaluation. Athens, OH: Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service.

## Questions?





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### **Session Evaluation**

Please complete a brief evaluation form for all workshop, forum and networking sessions by scanning the following QR code or visiting the following link:

https://bit.ly/2024Evaluations

