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I-CAN: AN INTERAGENCY CASE MANAGEMENT NETWORK FOR DETAINED YOUTH
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OBJECTIVES. Detained youth often have unmet physical and mental health needs (Feinstein, R., et al., 1998). In order to reduce recidivism and improve population health and well-being, effective intervention programs are needed that facilitate appropriate use of public health services and link youths and their families to community supports. I-CAN (Interagency Case Management Network) was intended to facilitate collaboration amongst Georgia state- and community-level human service agencies to promote and improve continuity of care for youths who have been detained at the Rome Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC). Its purpose was to address two identified concerns, namely, that youths released from the Rome RYDC were: (1) returning to the facility with the same unmet physical and mental health needs that were previously identified; and (2) reported difficulty accessing community health and social services.

METHODS. The study featured formative and process evaluations both quantitative and qualitative to assess the short-term and long-term process measures delineated in the Evaluation Planning Matrix developed by the Division of Juvenile Justice. The formative and process evaluation included: key informant interviews, surveys of case managers and youth, and analysis of data from the Interagency Case Management System.

RESULTS. Results of the initial evaluation of I-CAN were that interagency collaboration identifies health and social needs of detained youths and their families and decreases duplication of services.

CONCLUSION. The I-CAN case management initial results are promising and suggest success in creating a strong, integrated process for comprehensive care for juveniles returning to their community and their families.

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THE PERCEIVED HEALTH STATUS OF LOW-INCOME AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN AND THEIR USE OF MAMMOGRAPHY SCREENING
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OBJECTIVES: There is a great need to identify factors that motivate low-income African American women (AAW) to participate in mammography screening. This study determined the relationship between the perceived health status of low-income African American women (AAW) and their use of mammography screening. It was hypothesized that study participants who perceive their health status as good or excellent would be more likely to participate in mammography screening.

METHODS: A descriptive correlational design was used to analyze the data related to the three research questions that guided the study: 1) What is the perceived health status of low-income AWW who are employed in a community setting?, 2) What is the relationship between the perceived health status and mammography use in low-income AAW?, and 3) Is there a relationship between selected demographic data and mammography use in low-income AAW? Participants consisted of 127 African American women employed as child care providers in community childcare centers located in the state of Georgia.

RESULTS: Descriptive statistics were used to analyze data related to each research question. Correlational analyses were used to determine the relationship between the women’s perceived health status, role strain and mammography use. Regression analyses were used to determine the best predictor of mammography use in low-income African American women.

CONCLUSION: While the research study is completed, data analysis has not been finalized. However, this study has implications for developing and evaluating interventions to promote mammography screening in low-income African American women who are employed in community settings.
OBJECTIVE: The number of young female bullies at school are a serious problem. The National Youth Survey conducted a study where they obtained self data from 1,725 youth age 11 to 17 years. They found that females who displayed early aggressive behavior were more likely to demonstrate bullying and delinquent behavior.

METHODS: A target sample of 918 females from New York State was surveyed from three different school districts. The New York Adolescent Health Survey consist of 114 items such as suicide, drugs and alcohol, and violence. The Cronbach alpha reliability estimate for the total instrument was 0.8572.

RESULTS: Twelve and thirteen year old females, who were physically assaulted (hit or grabbed) as a child by their father, and witnessed their father verbally abusing their mother were more likely to display early aggressive behavior and become bullies. This suggests that young females are modeling their father’s behaviors and bullying other children at school.

CONCLUSION: The present study demonstrates that early aggressive bullying behavior is not something you are born with, but a physical act that is learned.