Is Your Organization Ready to Adopt an Evidence-Based Program?

The following questions are ones that should be addressed by each organization before adopting an evidence-based program.

1. Is your organization willing to:
   - Work closely with the organization/university disseminating the evidence-based program?
   - Support the adoption of a “manualized” program with fidelity (i.e. without changing the program content or structure unless authorized)?
   - Invest upfront and ongoing funds to the program?
   - Invest the staff time necessary to adopt, implement, and sustain the program?
   - Develop and employ a plan (including policies) for embedding the program into the organization structure?

2. Do you know what issue you want to address?
   - How do you know this is an issue (e.g. have you conducted a needs assessment, or examined health data from your community)?
   - What is already being done in your community to address the issue?
   - What are the gaps in addressing the issue and will implementing an EBP help fill the gaps?

3. Do you know who your target audience will be and why?
   - Will an EBP help you reach your audience?
   - Does an EBP exist that is culturally compatible with your target audience?

4. Have you identified a program that will fit both the issue and the target population?
   - Has an EBP been implemented successfully with the similar population and in a similar setting to the one you are considering?

Adapted from “Identifying and Selecting Evidence-Based Programs and Practices: Questions to Consider” from NREPP SAMHSA’s National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices.