Keeping Safe from HIV

Keeping Safe from HIV is a seven-lesson HIV prevention curriculum for students in grades 6 through 12. The curriculum was developed by Los Angeles County Office of Education and designed with the assistance of a cadre of middle and high school teachers from four school districts in Los Angeles County who also field tested the lessons.

This interactive, student-focused curriculum satisfies all requirements for HIV prevention outlined in California Education Code 51934 and standards for effective HIV-prevention curricula. Additionally, Keeping Safe from HIV addresses seven of the standards described in the Science Framework for California Public Schools. Information presented is consistent with that of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and has been reviewed and approved by the Office of AIDS Programs and Policy, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services.

The curriculum includes a variety of lesson types: Information Acquisition, Concept Development, and Skill Development. Each lesson is crafted to include all critical elements of effective instruction for that lesson type. Students are engaged in problem solving, decision making, assertive negotiation, risk analysis, and values clarification.

Keeping Safe From HIV is designed to address the diverse needs of students, teachers, and school communities in Los Angeles County. Optional activities and approaches, allow teachers to tailor the lessons to the students in their classrooms. Alternative materials allow teachers to meet the minimum Education Code requirements in topics that are sensitive and/or controversial in some school communities. Information sheets provide the background to help teachers understand the rationale of lesson activities, answer student questions on related issues, and plan lessons in related science and health topics.

In response to feedback from the California Healthy Kids Resource Center, new to the fifth edition are updated data from the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, more gender-neutral language and separate high school and middle school lessons 3, 5 and 6. The new high school lesson 3 addresses Common Core State Standards for reading in technical subjects. Lesson 6 addresses Common Core State Standards for writing.

Los Angeles County Office of Education provides Keeping Safe from HIV and Keeping Safe from HIV Teacher Implementation Workshops on a cost-recovery basis.

For further information please contact Glenn Dodd via email at dodd_glenn@lacoe.edu or by telephone at 562-922-8963.