

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION AIC 2016: #85

1. Title:

Uncovering key ingredients to successful program sustainment: A mixed method approach

2. Author(s):

Brittany R. Cooper, Louise A. Parker, Laura G. Hill, and Angie Funaiole

3. Key words:

Program sustainment, qualitative analysis, effective implementation, community-based prevention

4. Abstract text:

a. Background and aims

Program sustainment is defined as the continued delivery of program activities in order to achieve continued impact, and is seen as the desired final stage in effective implementation. Program coordinators often lament at lack of funding as the primary barrier, and although this is clearly a necessary ingredient, it is not sufficient on its own. The primary aim of this study is to identify the program, organizational, and community factors associated with sustainment in a sample of Strengthening Families Programs (SFP), an evidence-based, family-focused, youth substance use prevention program, implemented under natural conditions in one US state.

b. Methods

Fifty nine coordinators completed the Program Sustainability Assessment Tool (PSAT) and reported sustainment level in an online survey. Twenty also participated in semi-structured interviews; the transcripts are currently being coded using the PSAT as a framework. Interviews from nine sites were purposively sampled according to sustainment level (high, medium, and low). We will use: 1) a double-consensus, case-analysis approach to code the interviews and 2) matrix analysis to identify patterns, and compare and contrast sites within and across sustainment levels on the PSAT constructs (Figure 1).

c. Conclusion

Preliminary analysis of the quantitative data suggested that all but one PSAT construct (program adaptation) were positively related with sustainment. The qualitative data will be used to further identify those combinations of key ingredients that distinguish between sites with high and low sustainment success. This information is critical to promote long-term implementation effectiveness and ultimately improve public health.

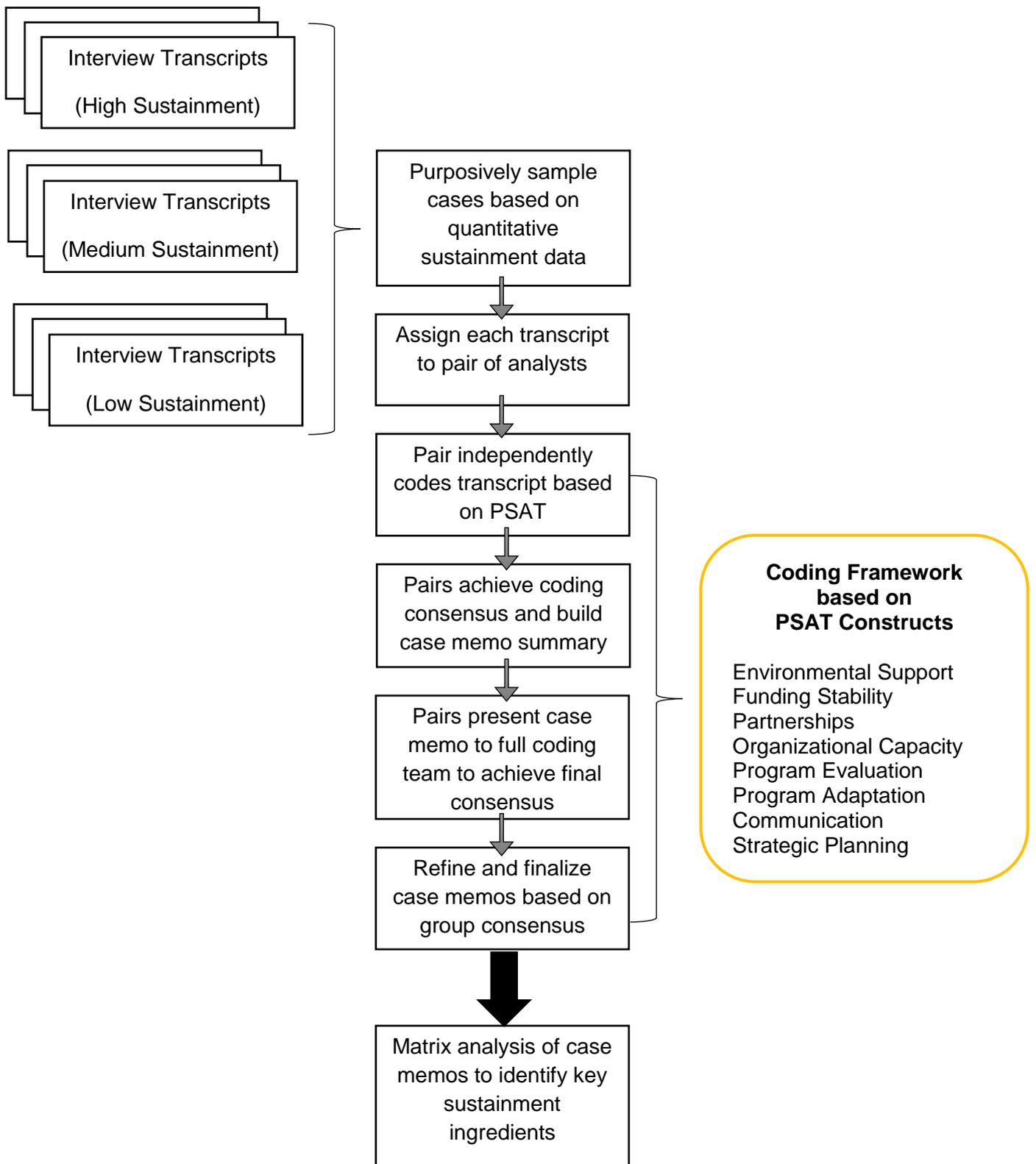


Figure 1. Interview Coding and Case Analysis Work Flow (modified based on Damschroder & Lowery, 2013)