



Asset-Based Approaches to Community Violence Prevention and Intervention Strategies Engaging Students and Families to Build Safer Communities



"I encourage you to reflect on the strengths within your community — your families, your youth, your teams — and consider how you can continue to build safety strategies that are both collaborative and sustainable."

— Andrea Jackson, U.S. Department of Education 21st CCLC Project Officer

This takeaway includes key information and resources shared during the fourth webinar in a series on asset-based approaches to community violence prevention and intervention for out-of-school time (OST) professionals. The series addresses the impacts of violence and juvenile crimes, strategies for prevention, and the power of cross-sector partnerships in preparing and strengthening communities. It's hosted by the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) National Technical Assistance Center (NTAC). Our partner for this webinar is the [Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center \(REMS TA Center\)](#). Register for future webinars at 21stcclcntac.org.



Key Takeaways

- **OST programs have a powerful role in advancing community-aligned safety efforts.** Whether it's coordinating emergency pick-up procedures or helping students process traumatic events, OST leaders can strengthen readiness by building family-centered protocols into their programming.
- **Families and youth aren't just stakeholders — they're partners.** Families can be vital assets in violence prevention when you lean on their knowledge, influence, and community connections to create safer environments for children.
- **Proactive planning builds trust, confidence, and a foundation for resilience.** OST programs can communicate roles, expectations, and reunification plans in advance, so when an incident occurs, parents are prepared to support students.
- **Resources and partnerships abound.** Keep attending this webinar series to discover more ways to strengthen preparedness in your programs and communities!

Guest panelists:

- Ms. Melinda Gonzales, After School Program (ASP) Curriculum Specialist, San Benito CISD ASP (Texas)
- Ms. Katie Barnett, Senior Research Associate, REMS TA Center





Resources Shared During the Webinar

- [REMS Technical Assistance Center](#) — Federally funded TA center that provides training and resources to help education agencies and their community partners manage safety, security, and emergency management programs. Most of the resources listed below are from the REMS TA Center. Visit their website for additional resources.
- [Talking With Your Child's School About Preventing and Addressing School Violence](#) — This family guide from the National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments (NCSSLE) defines prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery and helps families understand how to engage in conversations with schools about each of these areas.
- [Six-Step Planning Process](#) — Part of the REMS TA Center's at-a-glance Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), this flexible process was designed for local educational agencies but focuses on collaboration with partners and can be adapted to programs not based in schools.
- [Families and Caregivers as Partners in School Emergency Management Fact Sheet](#) — Strategies for engaging families before, during, and after an incident and including them in the EOP development process.
- [Integrating Family Reunification Planning Before, During, and After an Emergency into the School EOP Fact Sheet](#) — Provides information and resources related to the school's and school district's plans for reunifying children with their families after an emergency event.
- [Understanding the Role of Families and Parents in Supporting School Safety Before, During, and After an Emergency](#) — This webinar highlights the role of families in supporting school safety efforts at the local and State levels.
- [EOP ASSIST](#) — This software application is an EOP-plan generator for K-12 education agencies. The app is free, and you install it on a local server for complete data privacy. Also available as an offline interactive workbook in English and Spanish.
- [SITE ASSESS](#) — Free, secure mobile app designed to help education agencies assess their safety, security, accessibility, and emergency preparedness.
- [Community Violence Prevention & Intervention \(CVPI\) Knowledge Network Group](#) — Any 21st CCLC professional can create an account or log in to access the 21st CCLC Knowledge Network, where you'll find groups and discussion forums related to this topic and many others relevant to your work.

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