# Comprehensive School Mental Health and Substance Use Prevention: Highlighting the Gap

Presented at: Alcohol and Drug Policy Full Council Meeting 12/20/2022



## Presenters



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# Child Health and Development Institute

CHDI is a bridge to better behavioral health and well-being for children.

#### **Our Vision**

All children grow up healthy and thrive

#### **Our Mission**

We advance effective and innovative system, practice, and policy solutions that result in equitable and optimal behavioral health and well-being for children, youth, and families in Connecticut and beyond.



#### **Our Strategic Process Powers Systems, Practice and Policy Improvement**





## CT Project AWARE

- Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education
- 5 year, SAMHSA-funded
- Awarded to SDE, in partnership with DCF, CHDI
- Middletown, Naugatuck, Windham school districts





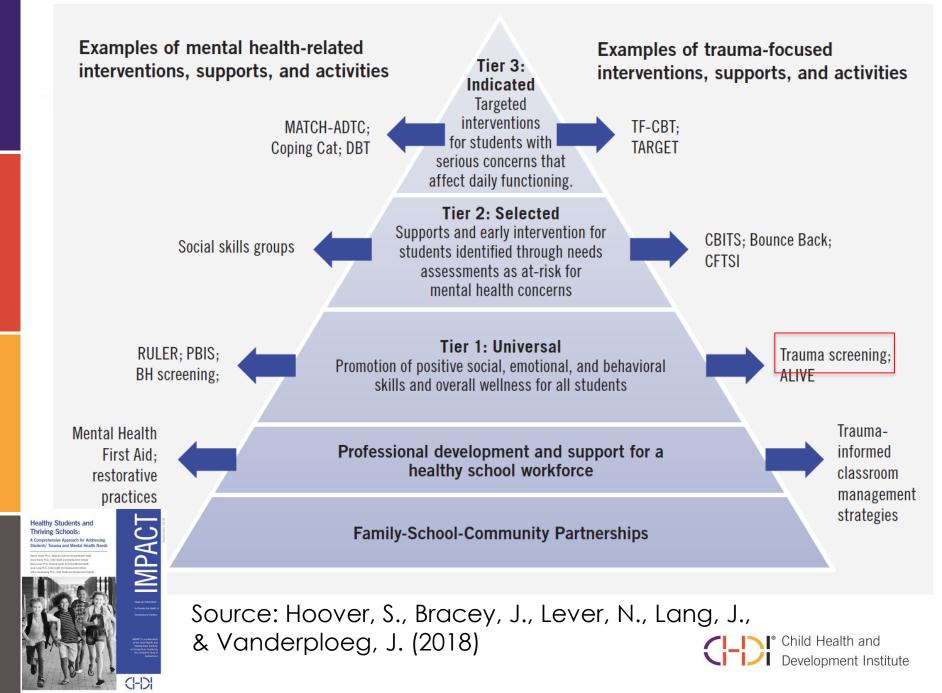
## AWARE Advisory Board

Agencies/Organizations represented on the board:

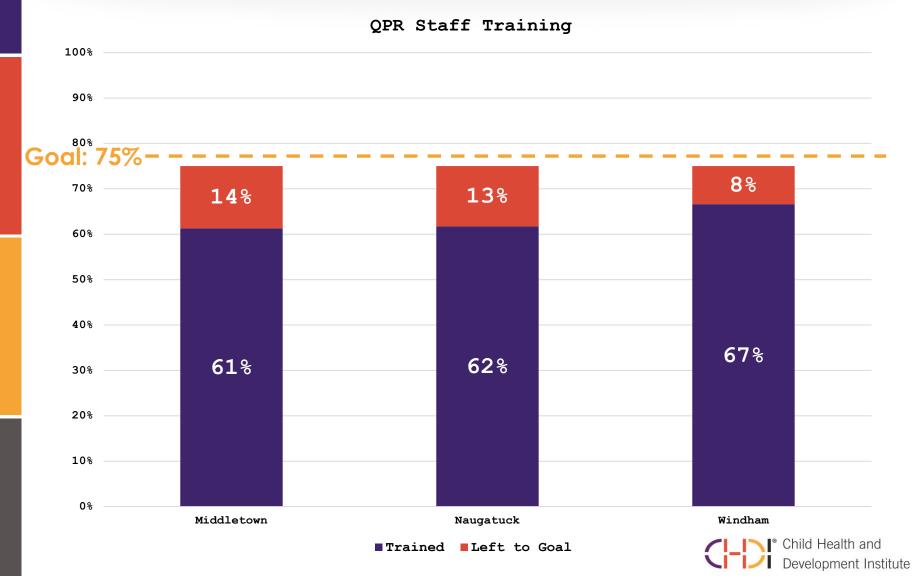
- CT State Department of Education
- Department of Children and Families
- Department of Public Health
- Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- UConn Collaboratory on School and Child Health
- Clifford Beers
- Beacon Health Options
- FAVOR
- Connecticut Children's
- CT United Way
- RESC Alliance (CREC, EASTCONN, ACES)



#### Figure 1: Trauma-Informed Multi-Tiered System of Supports for School Mental Health

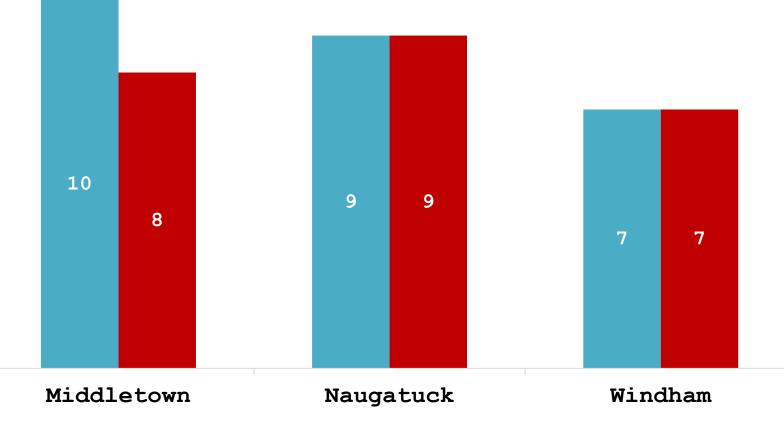


## Goal 1.1: Train 75% of staff on QPR



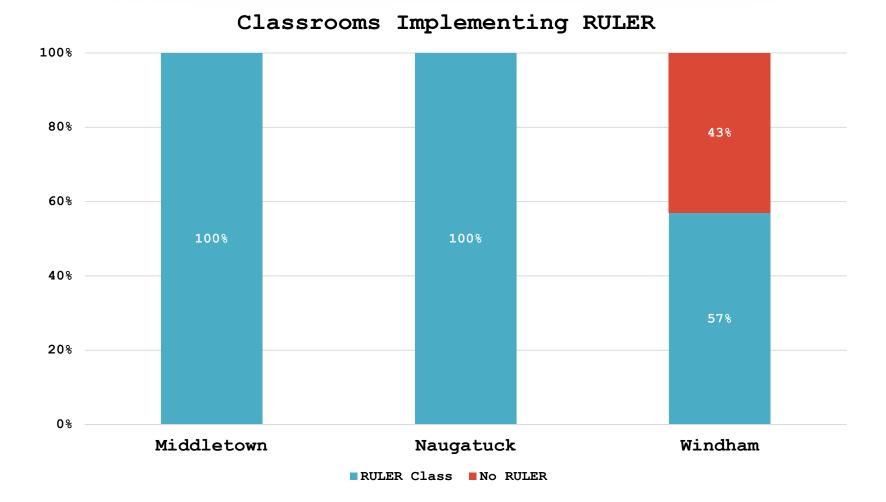
### Goal 2.2: All Schools are Gold Status by Year 2





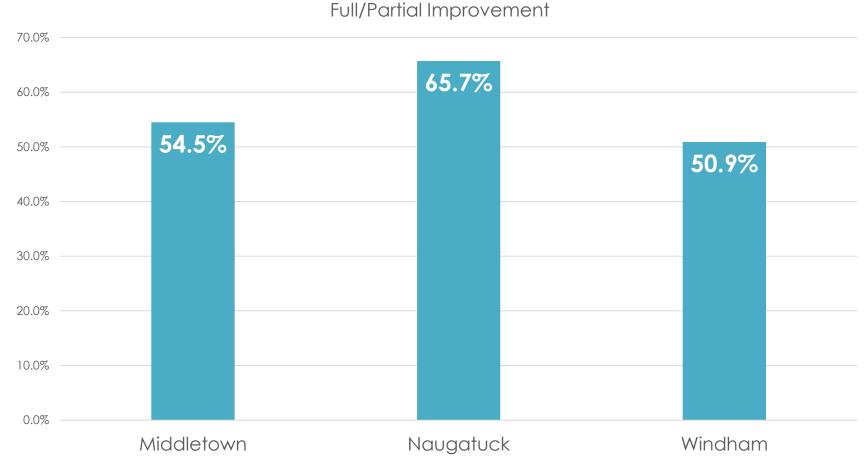
Goal Actual

### <u>Goal 4.3:100% of Classrooms will implement</u> <u>RULER by the end of year 5</u>



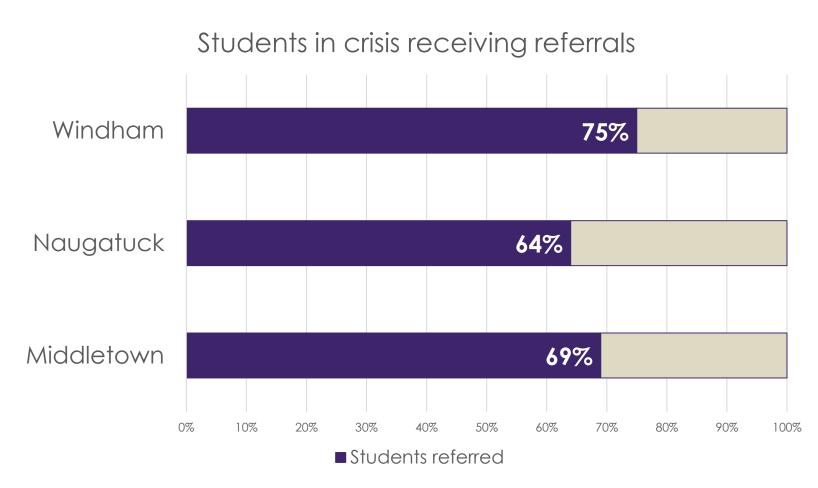
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## Goal 5.4: Partial/Full Improvement of Symptoms





### Goal 6.3: Students in crisis will be referred

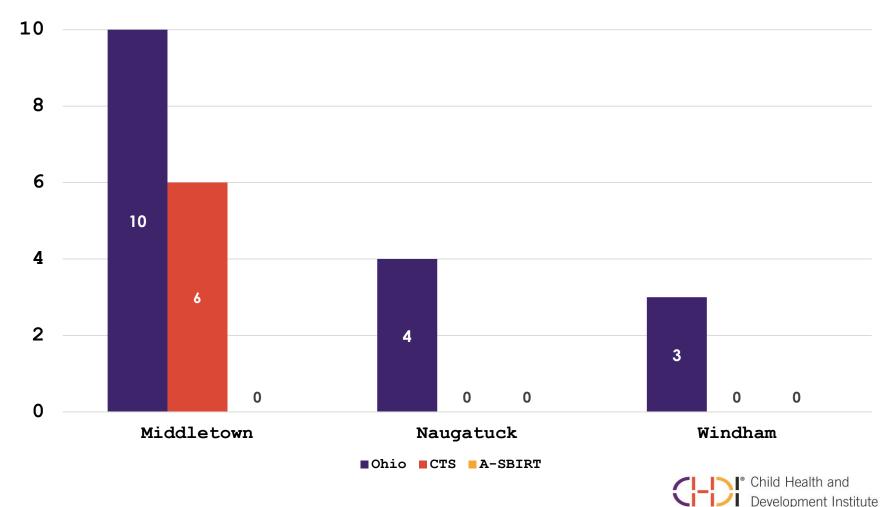


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## Goal 3.1: All schools screen students

#### Screener Implementation

All screeners are self-report\*



## Substance Use Prevention/Recovery-Friendly Schools

Middletown	Naugatuck	Windham
<ul> <li>Substance use prevention via health class</li> </ul>	Nothing	<ul> <li>Heroin Education Team (HEAT Program)</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Substance use prevention via health class</li> </ul>



## Next Steps

- Invest in a state-wide behavioral health screening/data portal
  - Purchase an already-existing portal
  - Helps with identification of students
  - Increases continuity of care
- Use existing reimbursement mechanisms to incentivize collaboration between local agencies engaged in substance use/behavioral health prevention and schools

# Stay in touch

**Please visit us at <u>www.chdi.org</u> and join our email list** for publications and information on solutions that improve outcomes for children and their families.











