



# *From Suspension to Support:* Mobilizing School Partners to Address Adolescent Substance Use

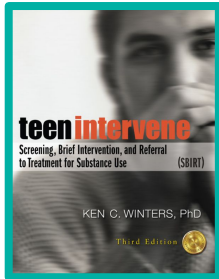
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## Project Partners



# What is UpShift?



2-4 Student Sessions  
1 Parent Session



Referral to Treatment  
Provider

Student is using  
substances

Student is screened  
and routed to  
appropriate pathway of  
care

*Participation offered  
instead of out-of-school  
suspension*



## Why take an alternate approach to out-of-school suspensions?

**“Restorative practices  
are about shifting  
mindsets...”**

- Out-of-school suspensions are counterproductive
- Current practices are inequitable
- Inconsistent approaches
- Hierarchy of substances
- Relationship with families


# Recommendations for Effective School Partnership

- Understand current landscape and approaches
- Identify champion(s) to help increase buy-in
- Clarify roles and establish agreements
- Identify areas for alignment with existing practices





## Questions to Consider

1. How does the school or district approach substance use/possession?
  2. What capacity currently exists (school/district)?
  3. What efforts are currently taking place that align with this program?
  4. Where can we provide support to improve current policy/system?
  5. What outcomes do the schools/districts care about? How can we address and measure those outcomes?
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# Key Considerations



Addressing inequities

Creating a consistent system

Clear messaging and branding

Proactive communication

Get creative with capacity - inside/outside the school





# Works Cited

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**THANK YOU!**

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## Brief Intervention

