## SUSTAINABILITY

An overarching component of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) focuses on considering the sustainability of prevention efforts. Key activities include building a sustainability team and a series of sustainability questions.

### Build the Sustainability Team

**Begin by building the sustainability team.**

**Identify Key Players**

Who are the key people that need to be involved in the conversations about sustainability?

### Consider Sustainability

**What are you trying to sustain?** *(Consider the following as conversation catalysts.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organizations &amp; Projects</th>
<th>Ideas</th>
<th>Relationships</th>
<th>Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What organizations, projects &amp; capacity need to be sustained?</td>
<td>What ideas from the initiative’s core principles, values, &amp; beliefs need to be sustained?</td>
<td>What connections among people &amp; institutions need to be sustained?</td>
<td>What results from the initiative need to be sustained?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Consider Public Value

**What evidence do you have that what you are doing is worth sustaining?**

**Questions to Consider**

- How are you impacting the community and its members?
- What results are valued by the community?
- What results are valued by leaders?

### Consider the Authorizing Environment

**What institutional supports, structures, and/or policies need to be in place to achieve sustainability?**

**Questions to Consider**

- What currently exists to support your initiative?
- What could be strengthened to ensure sustainability?
- What is blocking or obstructing your efforts?
- What is still needed to ensure sustainability?

### Consider Operational Capacity

**What capacity is necessary to sustain this effort and where will that capacity come from?**

**Identify & Assess**

- Internal strengths
- Internal weaknesses
- External opportunities
- External threats

### Process Strengths & Challenges

- Capitalize on Strengths
- Prepare for Obstacles
- List Communication Strategies
- Identify Key Next Steps

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**See Also:** SAMHSA. (2017). Focus on Prevention. HHS Publication No. (SMA) 10–4120. Rockville, MD: [https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Focus-on-Prevention/sma10-4120](https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Focus-on-Prevention/sma10-4120)

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