

HealthRICH: Health risks, information, and Choices-Phase II (NSF)

Funding Agency:

National Science Foundation (NSF)

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Evaluation:

2 Years

\$50,000

Ohio's Evaluation and Assessment Center for Mathematics and Science Education (E & A Center) is evaluating the HealthRich project. The project's objectives are to (a) distribute HealthRich Phase I materials, (b) establish *Strive to Thrive!* science/health clubs in middle schools throughout the U.S., (c) conduct research to find out the impact of Phase II, (d) adapt Phase I materials to support new dissemination programs, and (e) expand public and professional awareness of HealthRICH materials. The E & A Center will develop evaluation instruments, collect and analyze data, and examine how the project will reach its goals, specifically focusing on the impact of the online

professional development training, classroom participation, and the *Strive to Thrive!* programs.

Teachers and students of participating teachers will be asked to complete pre- and post-assessment questionnaires. In addition, several tests and interviews will be administered to measure the effectiveness of the course materials utilized during the evaluation.

This project is currently being evaluated and results are inconclusive. However, the findings will be used to help the HealthRich project produce more effective teaching materials for young teens.

This project reinforces the E & A Center's ability to evaluate and disseminate data from a variety of science related fields.