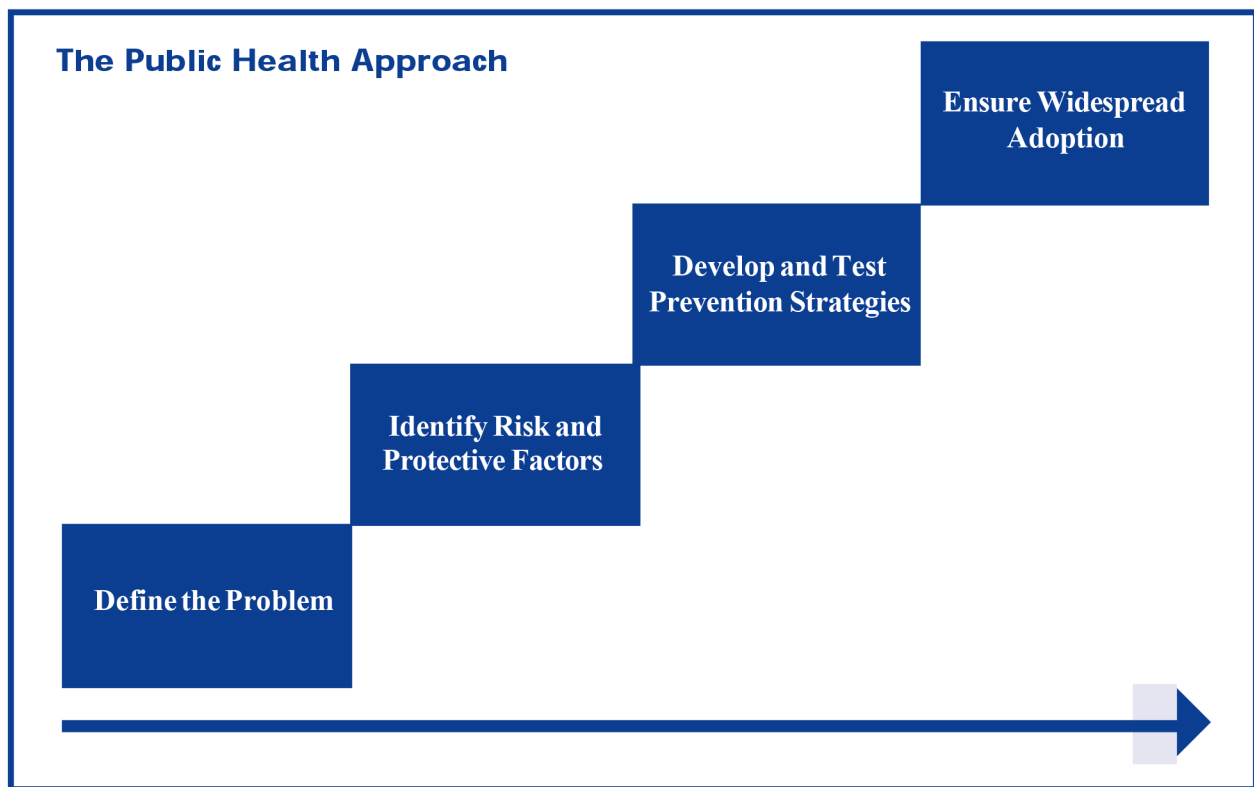




The Public Health Approach to Sexual Violence Prevention

Public health is ultimately concerned with approaches that address the health of a population rather than one individual. This is generally referred to as a population-based approach and is one of the principles that distinguishes public health from other approaches to health-related issues.

Based on this principle, a public health prevention strategy demonstrates benefits for the largest group of people possible, because the problem is widespread and typically affects the entire population in some way, either directly or indirectly. The public health approach also depends upon collective action (Krug, Dahlberg, Mercy et al. 2002). It is a community-oriented approach that takes the onus from victims and advocates and encourages the entire community (women, men and youth) to prevent sexual violence.



Source: www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/svprevention-a.pdf