



# Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program Workgroup

## Meeting Summary, 5/6/2016

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On Friday, May 6, 2016, the Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program (YMPEP) Workgroup gathered via teleconference to discuss the Year 1 Needs Assessment and to review the upcoming trainings.

### I. Welcome and Introductions

CHOICE staff facilitated the phone call. After all participants introduced themselves, Program Director Jennifer Brackeen thanked everyone for joining and reminded the group of the original intent of coming together for this program to collaborate as a region for the purpose of preventing marijuana use among teens. Regional partners had identified early on in the process that it would be important to first identify what prevention activities were already happening in the region, and what gaps this workgroup may be able to help fill.

### II. Needs Assessment Documents

Meagan Pickard with the Athena Group explained that the two documents the group received to review were drafts of the needs assessment that were created from the DOH template with input from workgroup partners in order to be the most useful for our local communities. The feedback from workgroup members included a request to focus on existing assets, especially those that include evidence-based practices. The larger group agreed with this focus, and expressed that the drafted assessment questions are useful for the work at hand.

Meagan also explained that the purpose of having two different versions of the assessment was to have one that could be completed by a group during an in-person group process, and one that could be completed by an individual on behalf of their local organization. The workgroup agreed that it would be best to have both options available so that the partners can make up their own minds on which one (or a combination of the two) makes sense in their area. The workgroup also agreed that it is important to have this survey distributed on a local level by partners who have established community relationships. The following organizations specified how they would distribute the assessment in their communities:

- Thurston County Public Health will host an in-person group assessment. (Maryann O'garro)
- Mason County Public Health will distribute the assessment electronically. (Ben Johnson)
- Cowlitz County will distribute the assessment electronically, and Healthy Living Collaborative will assist. (Michael O'Neill & Kachina Inman)
- Grays Harbor County Public Health will distribute the assessment electronically. (Wilma Weber)



- Pacific County Public Health will look into doing an in-person group assessment, but requests the electronic version in case they decide that will work better. (Mary Goelz)
- SPIPA will distribute the assessment electronically to their tribal partners. (Jen Olson)
- Healthy Living Collaborative will follow up with CHOICE staff about how to best assist with Wahkiakum's assessment. (Kachina Inman)
- Meagan will follow up with Lewis County Public Health about their assessment.
- ESD-113 will assist the public health departments in their counties.

The group also discussed the content of the assessment documents and suggested the following changes, which Meagan will incorporate into final versions:

- Add Strengthening Families to the Strategies/Programs column.
- Add two questions to address fidelity of implementation, i.e., how confident an organization is to be able to implement a program, and what is needed to increase that confidence, including what sorts of modifications have been made for local implementation.
- Change Community Readiness section to an open-ended question about how local communities assess their readiness to implement a project.

### III. Upcoming Training Offerings

Staff explained that there is a Strengthening Families Training being offered in Bellingham, June 20–22. Partners are encouraged to attend, and all expenses will be covered by the program. Participants need to register by June 13th, and they should contact Program Manager Matthew Shellhart to coordinate registration. More information can be found here: <http://sfp.wsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/2016JuneSFPtrainingflyer2.pdf>

Erin Riffe with CR-ESD 113 is still looking for hosts for High in Plain Sight training for Mason and Cowlitz counties. Michael O'Neill and Kachina Inman agreed to look into the possibilities in Cowlitz County.

Staff also reminded partners of the other upcoming training programs, which were listed in a [program newsletter](#), and will be kept updated on the [CHOICE Events Page](#).

### IV. Next Steps

- CHOICE staff will send out the Needs Assessment Tool again, once Meagan has finalized both versions with the incorporated changes. CHOICE staff will also make sure that everyone has Meagan's contact information in case there are remaining questions or suggestions about the Assessment Tool.
- CHOICE staff will send out clarifying information about reporting and invoicing, and details about upcoming trainings. Specific questions should be addressed individually to Matthew Shellhart: [shellhartm@crhn.org](mailto:shellhartm@crhn.org), 360-539-7576 ext. 107
- CHOICE staff will send out a Doodle poll to plan the next workgroup meeting, which will hopefully be in person.