

# Youth Marijuana Prevention & Education

## October 2016 Regional Meeting

November 15, 2016

### Participants

Ben Johnson, Ramona Leber, Chris Hawkins, Ophelia Noble, Casey Peters, Kachina Inman, Johnna Knoerr, Stacy Mueller, Cortney Knutson, Jen Olson, Matthew Shellhart, Rebekah Finn, Laura Spoor

### Regional Updates

#### Thurston County

Thurston County continues to provide Community Assessment information to the group.

#### TOGETHER!

The Social Norms campaign is underway in Bush and Tumwater Middle Schools. The Peer Health Education Group continues to engage students at South Sound High School. Matt is working with TOGETHER! to create a prevention toolkit for middle schools to use.

#### Mason County

Coalition meetings have been moved to evenings in an effort to include more youth. The coalition has a new Facebook page as well. There is a cigarette butt pick-up scheduled for today in three different locations around Shelton. Ben and Matt attended two lockbox promotion nights targeting at Hispanic families and provided them some useful prevention information.

#### CR-ESD 113

The Life Skills program at Washington Middle School in Lewis County is going very well. Marijuana and E-cigarette flyers and Safe School signs were distributed and more are available for other partners if needed. Planning is underway with sites in Mason, Grays Harbor, and Thurston Counties to host the Strengthening Families program. ESD 113 is planning to host the Washington Poison Control E-cigarette presentation in January and will invite the work group.

#### Cowlitz & Wahkiakum Counties

The Strengthening Families curriculum continues to take place in Longview, and planning is underway for the next session. Tabloids were distributed in Castle Rock and Toutle Lake.

#### Healthy Living Collaborative (HLC)

Youth Community Health Workers are being recruited. Ophelia, a CHW for two years with the HLC, was recently hired to work on the youth leadership program with Kelso High School. Kachina updated the group on the policy agenda for the Statewide Prevention Alliance: Tobacco 21, regulations for marijuana advertisement, E-cigarette tax, and supporting local policies.

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## Lewis County

Lewis County partners brought a team of youth from the Morton CPWI to the Prevention Summit. Student recorded PSAs are being played on local radio stations, and Social Norms posters are going up around the community. There is also a Strengthening Families program currently occurring.

## SPIPA

Lock boxes were distributed to members of the Quinault Nation. SPIPA hosted an educational session about vaping, and the Squaxin Island Tribe has requested some information from them.

## Updates

Ramona Leber spoke to the group about WASAVP – the Washington Association for Substance Abuse & Violence Prevention. WASAVP is a statewide prevention organization that is volunteer-driven and has its own lobbyist, funded with membership dues. For educational and informational updates via email, partners are welcome to sign up on the website, [WASAVP.org](http://WASAVP.org).

Ramona also informed the group about what is on WASAVP's current legislative agenda: funding, regulations for marijuana advertising, Tobacco21, alcohol prevention, prescription drugs disposal, and opiate addiction prevention. On February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, WASAVP will host Prevention Policy Day, its annual gathering with youth at the Capitol. The kick-off for this event will take place at 9am and there will be a rally at 11am. Attendees will have the opportunity to make appointments with legislators and discuss prevention policy.

Matt provided the group with examples of Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) strategies, and encouraged partners to keep PSE in mind when carrying out their own local programs in order to create more lasting, widespread change. Ben pointed out that data is needed in order to show that these changes are needed.

## Next Steps

- Matt will send out Cristal's presentation slides.
- The next work group meeting will be in-person, and will take place at the **Lewis County Public Health Department on December 16**. Kristin Pettet, from DOH, will be presenting about the #Listen2yourselfie campaign. Matt will let everyone know when the time is finalized for the meeting.