

# Youth Marijuana Prevention Education Program

## October 2016 Regional Meeting

October 16, 2016

### Participants

Kachina Inman, Stacy Mueller, Johnna Knoerr, Ramona Leber, Ben Johnson, Mary Anne O'Garro, Wilma Weber, Kacey Peters, Megan Sullivan, Matt Shellhart, Rebekah Finn

### Regional Updates

#### Cowlitz & Wahkiakum Counties

Efforts have been focused on a community in South Kelso, where partners handed out "Listen2YourSelfie" goody bags at a Community Health Worker event organized with the neighborhood association. The bags were a big hit with the youth and helped get information to parents. Work group members are also starting to talk to a local high school about their youth leader program, and will be participating in a local town hall meeting. They also attended a second South West region planning meeting, where they learned from ESD-112 about their "Youth Now" and "We Can Wait" social campaigns. They have begun distributing the fact sheet newspapers in both counties, and both counties have upcoming Strengthening Families programs.

#### ESD 113

ESD 113 is preparing for a Life Skills course in a 6<sup>th</sup> grade class at Olympic Middle School in Lewis County, and is also working with McCleary School in the next month. Stacy is also starting to plan a Strengthening Families program, and would like some advice from the group on how to recruit families for the program. Ramona suggested working closely with school administration and counselors to get families interested.

#### Mason County

Ben Johnson recently connected with state representative Dan Griffey, who is now drafting a bill to help allow recreational marijuana retailers to hand out lock boxes. Matthew and Ben will check with representative Griffey to see if the work group can see the language of the proposed bill.

Mason County Public Health has recently surveyed Hispanic/Latino families and found out that there needs to be more clarification about the legal age and illegality of public use of marijuana. They are hosting a meeting with about 30 families on October 18 to provide information and lock boxes. There was recently a local coalition meeting, where community members discussed the medically assisted opiate treatment being put together by Northwest Resources.

#### Pacific County

The Strengthening Families program on October 5 had a good turn out and went well.

## SPIPA (unofficial update)

SPIPA has been distributing lock boxes through their WIC program, without specifying what they should be used for, and they have been very popular. Staff has seen a need among their populations for educating parents on the dangers of marijuana to children.

## Grays Harbor County

A Life Skills program is currently being implemented in 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Hoquiam High School, and they are working on expanding the course to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades as well. They are also working on a peer leadership program where juniors and seniors partner with incoming freshman to help mentor them.

## TOGETHER!

TOGETHER! has been working on social norms campaigns in Thurston County schools. They passed out Listen2YourSelfie goody bags at a South Sound High School event, and the bags were very well received. CPWI is funding a Life Skills program in Tenino.

## Lewis County

Kacey and Danette have been catching up on what April had planned, including identifying local coalitions, figuring out the Life Skills program, and attending the upcoming prevention meeting in Yakima. Morton Up is the local coalition in Morton, which is the target community for CPWI funding.

## Thurston

Mary Ann shared the questions from this year's Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) that were relevant to marijuana use. This year's questions go into a little more detail than previous surveys, and the county is really trying to figure out whether marijuana use among youth has changed since 2014. The group was interested in finding out more about the effect of schools being geographically near marijuana retailers and vape lounges; TOGETHER! staff had recently seen a link to a list of retailer locations, so they will share that with the group.

## General Updates

- The webinar presentation that was supposed to happen about e-vaping will be rescheduled due to ill presenters.
- The Listen2YourSelfie campaign has a phase one report available for partners to review. There are also three Listen2YourSelfie photo backdrops available statewide, so partners should contact Matthew if they would like to use one for an upcoming event.
- Partners are asked to distribute the fact sheet newspapers put together by the state. Matthew has several boxes, so partners can contact him if they need more newspapers for their local communities.
- DOH is working with a work group of YMPEP coordinators to develop a Year 3 Work Plan, the draft of which will be distributed in the spring for review by local partners.

## Next Steps

- Matthew and Ben will check with representative Griffey to see if the proposed bill about lock boxes can be distributed to the work group.
- TOGETHER! staff had recently seen a link to a list of retailer locations, so they will share that with the group.
- Work group partners will distribute fact sheet newspapers in their local communities.
- The next Regional YMPEP meeting will be **November 15, 2016** via teleconference.
- Save the dates:
  - November 7–8: Washington State Prevention Summit in Yakima
  - Thursday, December 15: Regional YMPEP in-person meeting.