

DRUG & ALCOHOL PREVENTION WORKGROUP MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, September 8, 2016 • 3:00 pm • Kings County Behavioral Health Hope Room

<u>Finding</u>: Kings County youth are using alcohol, marijuana and other illegal drugs at a higher frequency than the state average.

Goal: Strengthen policies and supports pertaining to juvenile offenders and their parents/guardians.

Kings Partnership for Prevention (KPFP) Priority Area #2 Work Group (Preventing Drug Abuse and Excessive Alcohol Use) convened in order to review the findings of the KPFP Community Needs Assessment and other data and decided to focus its efforts on **strengthening policies and supports pertaining to juvenile offenders and their parents/guardians.** The work group identified that it is critical for parents/guardians of juvenile offenders to be involved in the youth's rehabilitation and also that a longer informal probation period that includes a treatment program if appropriate would be advantageous. Additionally, the work group identified a strong need for additional data collection, especially amongst schools and law enforcement in order to further understand the communities need and demonstrate outcomes for prevention and treatment efforts.

- o SPP 2015-2018
- The group discussed the need for more representation from law enforcement, health care organizations. Ahmad will talk to Robert Thayer regarding representation from the Sheriff's office.

Representing law enforcement, school districts, health care organizations, and other coalition entities, to engage them in assessing community needs regarding substance abuse prevention efforts, and as data sources for collection and compilation.

Highlighting the primary function of this sub committee will be the assignment to each participating committee member that specific substance abuse data (i.e. youth specific substance abuse data), be identified and communicated to each participating agency in verbal and written record, and be continuously collected and compiled. Verbal and written documentation and verification will be accomplished through agendas, meeting minutes, email notifications, the KPFP website, and telephone logs.

The group discussed the importance of data for infrastructure. Julie brought up the "Healthy Community Initiative" software and how much it would aid in this endeavor. She sent the information to Ahmad and Johanna for review.

The short term outcomes will be focused on forming the Substance Abuse Prevention Sub Committee and calendaring quarterly meetings. The role of the sub committee will be defined to identify data needs, assign key agency personnel who will be responsible for verbal and written communications and collection of data. Intermediate outcomes will anchor collaborative partnerships through regular attendance in the KPFP coalition and Substance Abuse Prevention Sub Committee, and maintain verbal and written documentation recording the progress of data collection. Long term outcomes will be to compile and summarize collected data in a summary report that focuses on a community needs assessment outlining the populations affected, and the prevalence, consequences, social determinants, and contributing factors of substance abuse. The sustainability of the data collection process will be evaluated through continued monitoring and recorded documentation.

- o The goals of this group will be:
 - o Data Collection/Sharing
 - After a data-based infrastructure is in place, work will continue to strengthen policies and supports pertaining to juvenile offenders and their parents/guardians.
 - o Needs Assessment (To be submitted by 06/01/2018)
 - Quarterly Meetings
 - o Engaging/Collaboration from different agencies
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at 1:30 pm at Kings County Behavioral Health.