

Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)

“The Strategic Prevention Framework is designed to assist community coalitions in developing the infrastructure needed for community-based approaches that can lead to effective and sustainable reduction in alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) use and abuse.”
(SAMHSA)

Assessment

Collect data to define problems, resources, and readiness within a geographic area to address needs and gaps.

Developmental Asset Survey – Report Completed April 2009. Community presentation by Youth Asset Leaders will be this fall. Date to be determined. YAL have been meeting throughout the summer and will continue when school begins. They will do the presentation of the new data to the community.

Save A Life Tour (NHS) - Post Event Survey was given in April to seniors to determine effectiveness of this Alcohol Awareness program from October 2009. The survey results showed that 68% of students remembered the presentation, 71% have thought about the presentation, and 89% believe that driving with an intoxicated driver is irresponsible.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) for 2009-2010 will be given in November 2009. This will be the third YRBS in the DFC Grant.

As part of our process to build a strong sustainable coalition, the BEACON Steering Committee, which is working on the 5-Yr Strategic Plan, has been conducting 100 conversations in the community to find out interests, concerns and opinions about high risk behavior, youth assets, and community perceptions. The information collected during this conversation will be used to help plan strategies that are in line with and will work with the shared perspectives of community members.

Capacity

Mobilize and/or build capacity within a geographic area to address needs. 145 supporting members.

Quarterly meeting May 21 – 8 coalition members attended.

Ongoing recruiting efforts to find volunteers for all upcoming events through emails, phone calls, and face-to-face requests.

Youth Assets Leaders’ will be added as part of our Youth Sector Supporting Membership.

We have lost several coalition members (students going to college, and change of staff at several schools).

Overview of all sectors has been completed and outreach and education efforts (presentation of Youth Assets by YAL) are being made to strengthen sectors that have less than 5 members such as the business, civic, and youth serving organization sectors.

Planning

Develop a comprehensive strategic approach that includes policies, programs, and practices creating a logical, data-driven plan to address problems identified in assessment.

We have been meeting with our Steering Committee to help create our Strategic Plan for the next 5 years. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22nd. Information from the individual community interviews (see assessment above) will be used to help plan goals and activities for next 5 years.

Community asset presentations are in the process of being planned.

Staying Connected with Your Teen is planned to begin this fall.

Town Hall Meeting on Underage Drinking April 2010 will focus on Alcohol and Academic Success. Date planned for Tuesday, April 6, 2010 at 7 PM - Portmedia Studio.

Teach-In is tentatively planned for Tuesday, March 30 at the Molin Elementary School for the fifth graders to teach students about alcohol and the brain.

Improbable Players will be coming to the high school this fall. Date to be determined.

Implementation

Implement evidence-based prevention strategies, programs, policies, and practices.

Staying Connected with Your Teen Parenting Program was completed on March 26th. It was a very successful program and it will be run again this fall. We have 5 registered for the October 2009 program. Information will go out in the HS parent Log and Nock Middle Matters.

Live Town Hall Meeting on Underage Drinking with a focus on binge drinking- April 28, 2009 from 7-8 PM at Portmedia Studio at Graf Road (is available on coalition website). Panel members were Dr. Lyons, Marshal Howard, Andrea Egmont, Mike Parent, Lori Gallivan, Becky Dill and facilitator was Sarah Hayden

Teach-In at Molin Upper Elementary School with the 5th grade. Lesson on alcohol and the brain was presented by high school students. Button for Alcohol Free Weekend was created by 5th grader.

Improbable Players performed at The Firehouse Center for the Arts. Group of young adults in recovery that tell their story of substance use. There were 15 participants. The players will be coming to Newburyport High School sometime this fall. The coalition and the high school will be sharing the cost of this program.

Family Prom & BEACON Awards– May 2, 2009 from 6-9 PM, City Hall Auditorium
Alcohol Free Weekend in Newburyport – May 1-3, 2009 which included the *Alcohol Free Newburyport Signature Drink Competition* (Michael's, Ten Center Street, Not Your Average Joe's– May 2, 2009. There were 115 participants.

Asset Presentation to school staff and faculty, PTOs, and the NEBC.

Evaluation

Measure the impact of the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) and the implementation of strategies, programs, policies, and practices.

The *Save A Life Tour* at NHS 10/9/08 - post test was completed and additional survey given in April 2009.

Staying Connected with Your Teen parenting program - pre and post test completed by participants.

Cultural Competence

Recognize the need to include a broad cross section of the population in the work of the coalition and give importance to including organizations that represent various cultural groups.

I will be attending a workshop by Northeast Center for Healthy Communities on Enhancing Cultural Competence in October.

Sustainability

The ability to maintain the human, social and material resources needed to achieve your coalition's long-term goals.

A Coalition Steering Committee has been formed and has begun the process to identify goals for the next five year period.

Newburyport School District Strategic Plan includes benchmarks around risky behaviors derived from statistical information found on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey completed during alternate years. The 40 Developmental Youth Assets are also a part of this strategic plan and the district has begun to incorporate asset language throughout the schools.

Submitted by Sarah Hayden, Prevention Project Director, August 27, 2009