

YMPEP Planning Team Meeting

Meeting Summary, 9/11/2017

Support and Backbone Staff: Matthew Shellhart – CHOICE, Megan Moore– CHOICE, Carol Palay- CHOICE,

In Attendance: Ramona Leber – Cowlitz Consultant, Yasmina Aknin – Cowlitz County Health and Human Services, Dianne Swanson – Cowlitz County Health and Human Services Department, Casey Peters – Lewis County Public Health and Social Services, Ben Johnson – Mason County Public Health, Jenna Machado - TOGETHER, Gracie Manlow – Pacific County Health and Human Services, Stacy Mueller – True North-ESD 113, Mary Anne O’Garro – Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department, Ophelia Noble – South Kelso Community Health Advocate Coach, and Ginger Hake – Wahkiakum Community Network

I. Welcome and Introductions:

Matthew Shellhart, Program Manager for the Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program at CHOICE, welcomed attendees and facilitated introductions. Matt then walked through the desired outcomes of the meeting agenda which were understanding the project toolkit, questions about the program, creating a theory of change statement, and collaboration on developing a strategic plan to decrease underage marijuana use of youth ages 12-20 years old from 18% down to 15%.

II. Utilizing All Participants in Future Development

The YMPEP group would like to work on adding additional partners so they can expand their view on the group and involve someone from every part of the community such as:

- Public Health Departments
- Coalitions
- Law Makers
- Law Enforcement/Police Departments
- School Officials
 - Are there incentives to get these groups more involved?
 - How does this influence legislative agendas?
 - Department of Health should include a definition of policy change for lobbying, due to funding that can only specifically be used for policy change

The Department of Health did approve the YMPEP group to focus on targeting a younger age population of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grades for prevention of marijuana use, but they require that the YMPEP group must include a statement as to why it is relevant and how it will affect the older age groups in the future.

III. Four Primary Focuses of the YMPEP

1. Youth who earn low to poor grades


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2. Youth who live with someone who uses/has marijuana in the home
3. Parents who have NOT talked to their youth about not using marijuana in the past 12 months
4. Rural communities that receive little to no funding for education and prevention

IV. Mission Statement Brainstorming Outcomes

- The Cascade Pacific Action Alliance Region will work with communities throughout Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Thurston, and Wahkiakum counties to promote health and wellness of youth and families by addressing family bonding and the consistent enforcement of laws contributing to youth marijuana use, by organizing a Regional Network, implementing social norm messaging, and enhancing policies to prevent the initiation and reduce the use of marijuana by youth
 - Increase perception of harm
 - Reduce favorable attitudes
 - Decrease access and availability of marijuana
- The Cascade Pacific Action Alliance Region will work with communities throughout Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Thurston, and Wahkiakum counties to reduce underage marijuana use by addressing youth perception of harm, reduce favorable attitudes and decrease access and availability of marijuana by organizing a Regional Network, by educating youth, parents and retailers to prevent the initiation and reduce the use of marijuana
 - Suggested mission statement: To build safe communities, increase protective factors, and support families in an effort to decrease marijuana among youth
 - Suggestion to list 4 priority areas in mission statement
 - Keep it short and to the point

The groups will develop a theory of change statement from the template provided, but the group will need clarification from the Department of Health. There was confusion on pulling a mission statement from the theory of change statement or do they mean the same thing.

V. Future Timeline and Implementations

The group will continue to meet and revise a strategic plan with a focus on cultural competency and sustainability. This gets YMPEP involved with multiple communities such as LGBTQ and tribes. Training will be incorporated for YMPEP group members.

- Suggestion of cultural humility instead of cultural competency
- Suggestion of creating county specific materials with county name on signs- vape free zone, etc. Include a RCW reference, gain interest of retailers (create environmental change)

Timeline:


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- September 1, 2017- All Needs Assessments Complete and Approved. Coordinate Regional Networks.
 - October- Meet with Regional Network and discuss results of Needs Assessment and begin the development of Logic Model
 - November- Logic Model Complete, strategies selected.
 - December- Begin writing plan.
 - January, 2018- Share draft of plan with regional network.
 - February- Finalize Strategic Plan
 - March 1, 2018- Submit Final Strategic Plan to DOH for approval
- There is funding set aside for implementation

VI. Outline the Primary Problem, Intervening Variables, and Contributing Factors

1. Youth with low/poor grades (C's, D's, and F's)
 - a. Income
 - b. Behavioral health issues
 - c. Adverse Childhood Experiences
 - d. Discipline within the schools (in school suspension vs. offering help)/Behavioral management
 - i. Suspension of children by race
 - ii. Cowlitz county has high number of racial disparities for in-school suspensions and juvenile justice
- Why are these problems on a county and community level?
 - Cowlitz- general lack of acknowledgement/value of education
 - Socio-economic factors/barriers
 - Mobility
 - Parental support
 - Transportation barriers/lack of resources
 - Racism/ Discrimination
 - Poverty
 - Community Norms
 - 2. Youth who live with someone that has/uses marijuana in the home
 - a. Community Norms
 - b. Different views on Medicinal Use vs. Recreational Use
 - c. Legal/Non-legal economic reality of an industry
 - Why are these problems on a county and community level?
 - Community Norms
 - High use rates in adults
 - Recreational sites/Density of retailers

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3. Parents who have not talked to their youth about using marijuana in the past 12 months
 - a. Community Norms
 - b. Parents not addressing medical reasoning for use
 - c. Mixed messages
 - d. Misunderstanding of risks associated with marijuana use and youth
 - e. Lack of clear information
 - f. Don't drug and drive
 - g. Dual worker homes/single parents
 - h. Against cultural norms/ religious differences
- Why are these problems on a county and community level?
 - Lack of concrete data
 - Lack of prosocial opportunities/Nothing else to do
 - Lack of long term opportunities/no positive future outlook
4. Rural communities that receive little to no funding for education and prevention
 - a. Poverty
 - b. Trust (small communities are closer, have less trust for outsiders)
 - c. Mobility
 - d. Community Norms
- Why are these problems on a county and community level?
 - Lack of prevention services
 - Lack of treatment services
 - Not enough representation
 - Lack of capacity, etc.
 - Co-occurring- dual diagnosis, self-medication
 - Stigma
 - Lack of data/empirical services
 - Lack of neighborhood collaboration

What is the Infrastructure of our region?

- Agricultural
- Separated govt. organizations trying to work together - Fragmentation

VII. List all Inputs that we will want to utilize throughout 5-year plan

- Tribes
- Law Enforcements (Law +LCB)
- Volunteers
- Non-profit
- Community Coalitions
- Prevention/intervention specialist
- Local Health Jurisdictions

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- Peer to peer education
- Community Health workers
- Subcontractors
- Statewide prevention org. (WASAVP)
- Schools
- Special Education
- Parents/Relatives
- Care takers
- Behavioral Health specialists
- Media-social, print, etc.
- Elected officials
- Neighborhood associates

VIII. Next Steps & Closing

- The YMPEP group will meet the second Monday of each month, rotating through all 7 counties
- Next meeting will be on October 9th, in Lewis county
 - Location: 156 NW Chehalis Ave Chehalis, WA 98532