

Youth Marijuana Prevention & Education

April 2017 Regional Meeting

April 18, 2017

Participants

Ben Johnson, Ramona Leber, Johnna Knoerr, Ophelia Noble, Todd Johnson, Casey Peters, Stacey Mueller

Staff: Matthew Shellhart, Rebekah Finn

Regional Updates

Cowlitz County

Strengthening Families had good attendance, and they distributed goody bags and other prevention resources. Partners attended the Washington Healthy Youth Coalition. Ramona is presenting the Marijuana 101 presentation at the Youth Summit in Cowlitz County. Kelso High School is having a presentation on April 27-28 called “What’s the Harm,” where YMPEP partners will be distributing goody bags and taking photos with the backdrop. High Schoolers in Kelso are also running a community assessment through May.

Lewis County

The Marijuana Forum went well, and partners are brainstorming ways to increase the attendance for future forums, possibly by targeting specific groups. “Healthy Community Health Youth” free workshops will be held at Centralia College through April, May, and June. This will include screenings of “Paper Tigers” and training on poverty and ACEs awareness.

CR-ESD-113

Strengthening Families is happening now, and the trainers are working with the families to flex attendance without missing any content. A Life Skills training was completed at Olympic Elementary School, and the community of PE EII is also exploring Life Skills as an option. CR-ESD-113 staff is working with CHOICE staff to plan a Marijuana Summit on May 24.

Mason County

Partners in Mason County are currently looking at data to inform strategic planning. Specifically, they have noted the data showing concern in the areas of bullying and mental health issues. In tobacco prevention, partners have had success in talking with retailers about posting prevention posters, and they hope to bring marijuana prevention into retailers in the same way. Ben Johnson has also been talking to marijuana retailers about Washington State House Bill 1250, which Governor Inslee will be signing soon.

Other things going on in Mason County include Good Behavior Games and a comedy workshop to promote confidence, public speaking, and leadership skills among youth. There are also opiate programs

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happening with the police and sheriff departments having available resources, and there are discussions for this to expand to the libraries as well.

TOGETHER!

The Focus on the Future conference is happening April 24-27. Tumwater School District is scheduling training for teachers with the Marijuana Toolkit, to be piloted in two Tumwater middle schools. Schools are continuing to use social norms posters, and there was a peer health poster contest at South Sound High School.

Under the Influence of You

Matt shared with the group a [new campaign from the Washington State Department of Health \(DOH\) Communications Team, called "Under the Influence of You."](#) The campaign includes videos to be shared on social media, geared towards parents and adult influencers. Partners are encouraged to share these videos on social media and at community meetings.

Priority Population Finder Tool

Todd Johnson from CR-ESD-113 provided the group with comprehensive data from the most recent Healthy Youth Survey for each of the seven counties. The group noted that there were not large enough populations to show the data for the YMPEP priority populations (African American, AI/AN, Hispanic/Latino, Asian/Pacific Islander, LGBTQ).

Needs/Asset Assessment

In preparation for Year 3, each county needs to complete a needs assessment. The data from Todd Johnson will be extremely helpful in this process, along with [the Washington Tracking Network website](#). The regional partners are asked to assess the data and identify trends that overlap across counties in the region; the regional work group should email their observations to Matt for group discussion to bring to DOH. In Year 3, the funding will focus 70% on environmental and systems strategies, and 30% on evidence-based practices.

Next Steps

Staff will get an update from the state on the current pending bills concerning Marijuana.

May 15th 2:00pm - 4:00pm: YMPEP monthly meeting at the Sheriff's Office training room 345 W Main St, Chehalis, WA 98532