

# Resources and Ideas from SCA Prevention Networking Session

## 12/15/21

Outlined below are the updates, activities, ideas and resources shared.

### Collaborating with Colleges

- CPA worked with PA Liquor Control Board on a PA higher education needs assessment looking at alcohol use on campuses. CPA goal is to develop collaborative that can work on continued needs assessment efforts, policy/environmental work, etc.
- CPA is developing Collegiate Action Network – students will work with PA START campaign and advocacy efforts. If you know of students who would be interested in participating, reach out to Jeff Hanley, [jeff.hanley@commonwealthpreventionalliance.org](mailto:jeff.hanley@commonwealthpreventionalliance.org).
- Are you working with colleges/universities?
  - Provide Alcohol Literacy Challenge program for Bucks County Community College. Recently provided program to incoming students.
  - Working with Drexel University on community needs assessment.
  - Lackawanna County has Prevention Education Consortium with 7 colleges/universities represented. Recently held event addressing vaping and marijuana. Fund colleges to provide alternative activities and sanction models like Alcohol 101.
  - Slippery Rock Coalition is working with Slippery Rock University students and faculty on underage drinking initiatives.
  - Work with Penn State Berks campus in areas of stigma and opioid use and have helped them submit grant applications.
  - Work with Penn State Altoona, mainly providing presentations, mocktail events and handing out information. Recently had a town hall on marijuana and the college students were offered extra credit to attend (had a great turn out). Would like to use DFC grant to work with college coaches to talk with/educate students.
  - Work with Penn State Hazleton. Recently participated in a wellness event focused on vaping and marijuana use.
  - Collaborate with colleges/universities in Lehigh and Northampton Counties around opioids/heroin. Host an annual event.
  - Partner with local universities (Lock Haven University and Penn College) on outreach events such as FASD, Overdose Awareness Day.
  - For colleges in Luzerne County provide wellness events during Alcohol Awareness Week, etc. Also work with nursing majors to educate on stigma and SUD and education majors to educate on substance use in home and what that looks like in classroom.
- Does anyone participate in a coalition/taskforce initiated by a college or does college participate in coalition?
  - Have served on the Kutztown University President's Roundtable for Drug and Alcohol Use for many years. The university has incorporated prevention services and funds staff to do drug/alcohol education.
  - Participate on Slippery Rock University's Students for Non-Profit Leadership - Have several initiatives currently working on: Anti-poverty Coalition activities, recovery activities such as creative and expressive arts programs in which university professors help teach courses (creative writing, drumming, mindfulness, etc.)

- Penn State Altoona reps participate in several committees. Active with committee on underage drinking. Also participate in education committee. Someone from Penn Highlands Community College is also on education committee and are able to share information back with their students.
- Two colleges sit on Luzerne County coalition to STOP Overdoses.

### Questions/Activities/Challenges

- Trying to settle back into a norm has been challenging. Very busy, many things happening at same time (working on Too Good, Life Skills Training, Positive Action, etc.). Also challenges with getting parents to keep students home when sick or pick them up when sick.
- Working on a marijuana awareness campaign and one area of focus will be on perceptions of marijuana use during pregnancy. Women are getting perception that marijuana isn't dangerous during pregnancy. Physicians recommending medical marijuana and dispensaries aren't screening for pregnancy or sharing education on risks of use during pregnancy. Has anyone worked with dispensaries or done work related to marijuana use during pregnancy?
  - Trained all nurses with Maternal Family Health Services on marijuana use during pregnancy.
  - Finding that many parents of youth serving are using marijuana.
  - Unclear if dispensaries meet or network (i.e. is there an association in some form that could collaborate with).
  - Finding kids who are using their parents' medical marijuana. Lack of awareness of the negative impacts of high levels of THC (assuming medical marijuana is safe).
  - Dispensaries are looking to make profit and have heard that dispensaries say you can purchase as much as you want. May need legislation that requires dispensaries to provide education on the risks of medical marijuana.

### CPA Updates

- Recreational Marijuana Legalization – Senator Laughlin and Street SB 473 was referred to Law & Justice Committee in October. Statewide Group Opposed to Legalization has been formed. Planning to meet monthly throughout 2022. If you're interested in joining, please contact Jeff Hanley, [jeff.hanley@commonwealthpreventionalliance.org](mailto:jeff.hanley@commonwealthpreventionalliance.org).
- Advocacy efforts continue related to alcohol privatization. Rep Isabella Fitzgerald visited her state Fine Wine & Good Spirits stores to show support. Senate bill to move canned cocktails from state stores to private businesses (e.g. Sheetz, Wawa, Walmart) does not look like it will pass. CPA is hoping to outreach more to legislators who support state stores.
- Check out the [PA START website](#) for new resources. Includes multiple prevention toolkits: two for prevention professionals on racial equity and LGBTQ+, several for parents, caregivers, teachers, etc. of middle school age youth, and toolkit for parents of black, LGBTQ+ and Latinx youth. Toolkits are available in Spanish. A new "prevention happens here" theme will be coming out next month.
- National Prevention Week is May 8-14. Planning for press conference in Harrisburg and providing resources for prevention professionals to use.
- CPA Conference will be June 21-24. Will be hybrid, in-person in State College but also virtual options. Carlton Hall will be one of the keynote speakers.

## **DDAP Updates**

- A revamped version of DDAP's SCA Media Approval Request Form will be coming soon. Information will likely go out first week in January. The most current version of the form can always be found on DDAP website: [https://www.ddap.pa.gov/Professionals/Pages/For\\_SCAs.aspx](https://www.ddap.pa.gov/Professionals/Pages/For_SCAs.aspx).
- Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training (SAPST) – DDAP is working to develop a more consistent annual schedule to hold the in-person SAPST training. The training is four days and covers foundational prevention topics and overview/application of Strategic Prevention Framework. Session attendees were polled and indicated that best times to hold this training are August, July, March, April, September and there was interest across regions in attending the SAPST.