

Resources and Ideas from SCA Prevention Networking Session

3/10/21

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

COVID Vaccines

- Staff who work in schools may fall under category of school contractor and therefore be eligible to get vaccine in Phase 1B.
- Some were able to get SAP liaisons to qualify under Phase 1A as clinical staff in school setting. Agency registered as a business and received a link.
- Asked school districts directly who extended registration link to provider staff (same as what provided to teachers/school staff).
- Some districts have allowed provider agencies to apply as part of their vendors.
- Schools may require those coming into schools to provide programs/services be vaccinated.
- As schools re-open, some are requiring that people coming into school be tested every week.
 - Need to think about: How will you get results from staff? How will you communicate results to school? Do you need staff permission to share test results with school? Who will have to give the proof of vaccination to the school (employee or agency)? What to do for staff who can't get or opt out of vaccine?
- Could employment be dependent on getting vaccine? EEOC is allowing employers to require vaccines, but each employer would need to decide what they want to do based on their determination of harm vs benefit.

Medical Marijuana

- Legislative aide asked SCA question about how partnering with dispensaries on prevention efforts. Considerations if asked similar question:
 - Cambria County Drug Coalition took board, law enforcement and healthcare workers in for tour of dispensary before it opened. Manager of dispensary went to law enforcement committee meetings to train officers (showed packaging to know what to look for).
 - Note that more funding is needed for prevention and that prevention should be handled by the experts in prevention not dispensaries.
 - Clearfield/Jefferson Drug & Alcohol Commission had dispensary staff give presentation to their staff. Learned more about the dispensary, the background of the staff, what they are telling people, etc. Can be important to know what dispensaries are saying to people.
- Position statements on medical marijuana can be found on [CPA](#) and [PACDAA](#) websites.
- While can't lobby, can educate and advocate (e.g. share PAYS data). Can also get involved with CPA advocacy committee.
- A medical marijuana dispensary reached out to schools to present to staff on how medical marijuana could help with anxiety, etc. Something to keep an eye on.
- NIDA and SAMHSA have resources that could help educate on signs to look for if parent/individual is misusing marijuana.

Town Hall Meetings

- Holding a virtual town hall meeting focused on underage drinking.
- Planning virtual town hall on March 25th at 1:00 during National Drug Facts Week. Topic will focus on marijuana (legalization and effects on brain/body).

- Council on Chemical Abuse holding virtual town hall meeting for Alcohol Awareness Month, titled Party with a Purpose. Will be on April 21st from 6-8. Can register to attend here: <https://cocaberks.org/event/party-with-purpose/>.

Education/Information Dissemination

- INDEPTH – Is anyone doing this program virtually and how are youth referred?
 - Several are providing INDEPTH virtually.
 - Referrals largely come from school counselors or from schools for policy violations. Considering collaborating with juvenile probation to be referral source.
- With youth leadership program, planning poster contest to create calendar to be shared.
- Two cohorts of Too Good program are going well. Planning a culminating event to celebrate the students and honor their parents/caregivers that will occur during Prevention Week and just before Mother's Day. Parents/caregivers will be invited to ceremony and plan to have youth pledge to be drug free.
- Cambria County Drug Coalition filmed segment for National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week on Around the Alleghenies which airs on Fox 8 and ABC 23. Quizzed host about drug and alcohol facts. Will air March 22nd at 10:30 and 12:30. Will have guest speakers on Around the Alleghenies during April for Alcohol Awareness Month on Your Health Matters segment.
- Partnering with schools to create PSA within school of positive PAYS data or myth busters. Plan to also try to get youth on the radio.
- Presenting to education majors in college about substance use at home and how it affects today's classroom. So better able to identify their future students who may be dealing with substance misuse at home.
- Educating college students in health care majors to reduce stigma (language and tone matter).

Other

- Is anyone doing universal mental health screening in schools? What screening tool is being used (e.g. BH Works)?
 - When doing universal screening need to be cautious that have enough supports available for the needs that arise through the screening. There can also be false positives (something need to consider).

CPA Updates

- CPA conference registration will open next week.
- Prevention Week is May 9th – 15th. More info to come.
- If you'd like to receive any updates from CPA about the conference, Prevention Week, advocacy efforts, etc. please go to <https://commonwealthpreventionalliance.org/>, click "log in to your account" in the top left corner, and then click create account.
- CPA is currently accepting applications for board members. Application can be found at: <https://commonwealthpreventionalliance.org/about/board-of-directors/>. If you have any questions, contact Tammy Taylor at 724-223-1181 x 126 or tammyt@wdacinc.org.

DDAP Making the Connection Training

- Butler SCA is hosting MTC training on 3/11 that is currently full and they will be scheduling another.