

# Prevention Networking Session: Resources & Notes

## 12/4/2025

### Successes/Activities Planned/Resources

- Urban Arts Entrepreneurship Program is wrapping up fall programming and students are doing project-based work including dance, zine making and music production. Helping keep students away from the pressures to use substances.
- Held student-run Friendsgiving. Youth coalition is looking to expand and are planning a dance party open to students across the county.
- Disseminating flyers related to problem gambling and promoting 1-800-GAMBLER for veterans, older adults, parents/caregivers, and general public.
- Created graphics in Canva with information about main focus area being discussed in programs like Too Good and Positive Action that week for the school to send to parents/caregivers. The goal is to inform parents and caregivers about the material being taught to their children and encourage meaningful conversations and interactions between parents/caregivers and their children. Schools have shared analytics showing that parents are viewing the materials.
- Collaborated with treatment courts to reach parents in treatment courts. Provided presentation to parents in treatment courts during week when judge wasn't available. A participant in drug court helped present. Presentation covered topics such as early initiation drugs, risks, impacts to developing brain, and tips for how to have conversations with their child. Has had very positive response from parents participating.
- Implementing a gun violence prevention program. Students receive gift cards to incentivize their participation.
- Planning grief-related informational workshop for the community during holiday season. Will be making candles to honor people who are missed. Purchased candle making kit that comes with all the materials needed and using soy wax.
- Doing PSA project with students in school. Students are creating PSAs on bullying, substance use and violence prevention. Younger students are making posters, designing bulletin boards and decorating classroom doors.
- Reached 1500 students with Too Good for Drugs across 4 school districts.
- Berks Council on Chemical Abuse has kids, teens and now families version of their Kids/Teens & Technology program. If you're interested in the program, visit their website: <https://cocaberks.org/kids-teens-tech/>
- Have developed quit kit and will be rolling out this year as "New Year, New You". Based on requests from schools have also now developed a youth quit kit and promote youth quit lines.
- Created a parent information webpage: <https://cocaberks.org/parentpage/>. Includes do's/don'ts of prevention and description of prevention programs being provided. When implement prevention programs in schools, give the school a parent letter to send home and parents can go to this website to learn more.
- Partnering with Children & Youth to give parents medication lock boxes and information about safe medication storage.

## Questions

- How are others navigating when schools really want an assembly? Will say no and indicate not a best practice and offer smaller classroom opportunities, but saying no can feel like a missed opportunity.
  - Explain to schools that classroom presentations and small groups allow students to participate in the conversation and ask questions. Explain that assemblies aren't a great option because there are so many other distractions and they can't participate.
  - Have done larger group presentation with follow-up of sessions with classrooms/smaller groups.
  - Offer to focus on one grade and do round of smaller group presentations for that grade.
- How are others addressing the issue of preventing youth from accessing parents/caregivers medical marijuana?
  - Attend home and school association meetings to talk with parents. Have asked schools if there is a location they could use to talk with parents at the school during, for example, drop-off and pick-up.
  - Make PSA or informational videos to share on social media and ask schools to send to parents.
- Is anyone working with dispensaries to have them distribute safety information to parents/other adults?
  - Met with local dispensaries and they shared their protocols, etc. One had an individual whose responsibility is to educate the community and they have safe storage information they share.
  - Important to also consider whether dispensaries could share information about impact of marijuana use during pregnancy.
- What strategies are others using to educate parents about parents allowing youth to drink at home so can "do it safely"?
  - Many are implementing the [Parents Who Host Lose the Most](#) campaign. Disseminating through strategies such as stickers on cases at beer distributors, stickers on pizza boxes, table tents at restaurants, signage, etc.
  - [MADD's Power of Parents](#) program addresses this topic.
  - Consider ways we could be educating parents about the developing brain.

## CPA Updates

- 2026 CPA Conference
  - June 10-12, 2026: Hilton-Harrisburg
  - [Speaker Proposal Form is open](#) (would love more submissions from individuals in PA doing prevention work)
- [CPA was awarded an OpenAI grant](#) (project will address ethical use of AI in prevention)
- CPA Youth Summit on May 6<sup>th</sup> with 170 youth participating. Selected youth from each of the coalitions will participate in training leading up to the day at the Capitol.
- Member event on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. Kicking off 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CPA.  
<https://paprevention.org/membership/>

## **DDAP Updates**

- EPIS holding informational webinar on a new Prevention Program Improvement Process being offered. This short-term technical assistance model is designed to help SCAs and their contracted providers strengthen the effectiveness and consistency of their programs and services.
  - **Date:** Tuesday, December 9, 2025
  - **Time:** 10-11 am
  - **Zoom:** <https://psu.zoom.us/my/mfausey>
- Prevention Evaluation Roundtables:
  - Evaluation Roundtable 1: Sharing Outcomes with Partners and the Community**  
Date: January 14, 2026  
Time: 1:00-2:00  
Zoom: <https://psu.zoom.us/j/4428434174>
  - Evaluation Roundtable 2: Topic TBD**  
Date: April 8, 2026  
Time: 11:00-12:00  
Zoom: <https://psu.zoom.us/j/4428434174>