The State of Delaware at a Glance

The Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH), the Single State Agency (SSA), in collaboration with the Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services (DPBHS) is working hard to make sure prevention is a priority in the State of Delaware. This quarterly newsletter was created to inform stakeholders and other prevention professionals about the efforts and activities in our state. Delaware, like most states are witnessing an increase in substance use and abuse and its negative, often life altering, impact on its residents. The increases come after a decade of major declines in tobacco use and modest declines in other substance use in Delaware. Although small in its geographic size, the need for a comprehensive, statewide, across the life span formalized and sustainable substance abuse prevention system is critical. Delaware’s small size provides advantages to developing, strengthening and sustaining prevention efforts across the State that are relevant to multiple communities and target populations.

Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)

SAMHSA’s 5 Strategic Prevention Framework Steps are utilized to implement Prevention initiatives and strategies in Delaware. The five steps are:

1. Assessment
2. Capacity
3. Planning
4. Implementation
5. Evaluation

Sustainability and Cultural Competence are critical and are integrated throughout the framework.

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**DSAMH Current Providers**

The Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health has the following prevention providers, Brandywine Counseling and Community Services (BCCS), formerly known as Brandywine Counseling, Inc., and The Latin American Community Center (LACC). BCCS offers workshops on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FASD) and Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention. BCCS also carries out media campaigns for drug and alcohol prevention and advertises them throughout the City of Wilmington. Throughout New Castle County, LACC provides street outreach, drug and alcohol education sessions, in addition to a Prevention Promoters program where teenagers receive training on leadership, drug and alcohol, HIV/AIDS, and violence prevention.

**DPBHS Current Providers**

Contracted through DPBHS, the Delaware Prevention Network Alliance (DPNA) is a coalition of 10 community service providers who promote advocacy for prevention and implement evidence based prevention curricula, including the All Stars Program. DPNA partners include: Delaware Parents Association, Edgemoor Community Center, First State Community Action Agency, Latin American Community Center, West End Neighborhood House, Peoples Settlement Association, O.A. Herring Community Center, Rose Hill Community Center, Neighborhood House, and William Hicks Anderson Community Center.

**The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant State Plan**

With the help of the Prevention Teams at the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health and the Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services, along with our Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPT BG) Community Stakeholders throughout the State of Delaware, we are now in the final stages of completing our Substance Abuse and Treatment Strategic Plan! As the SSA, DSAMH receives and administers funding of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). DSAMH allocates at a minimum 20% of the total award each year to provide substance abuse prevention programs targeting youth and adults in our state. The SAPT BG State Plan seeks to prevent the onset, use, and abuse of the prevention priorities which are; Alcohol, Marijuana, Prescription Opiates, and Heroin. Pending the approval of the SAPT BG State Plan, agencies and organizations will be given the opportunity to compete for funding to implement prevention programs in the communities that they serve.
Announcements

Are you passionate about Prevention? Does your organization currently implement or have an interest in implementing prevention programs? If your organization is currently not a part of the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health’s prevention stakeholders group we would like to invite you to become a stakeholder/partner to help make prevention a priority in Delaware! Contact Isabel Rivera-Green, DSAMH Prevention Specialist/National Prevention Network (NPN Representative for Delaware) at Isabel.Rivera-Green@state.de.us, if interested.

For current stakeholders/partners—A workforce development workgroup is being created to help sustain the efforts of the SAPT BG State Plan. If you are interested, we are inviting you to become a part of this workgroup to help develop our prevention workforce infrastructure. Please contact Isabel Rivera–Green for more details.

Prevention Activities

On June 15-17, 2010, DSAMH in partnership with SAMHSA held the “Changing Communities for the Better” Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnership Initiative Training at the Dover Downs Hotel in Dover, DE. This training initiative was designed to eliminate Federal participation barriers, to strengthen capacities of community and faith-based organization to effectively deliver quality prevention and treatment programs and compete successfully for diverse funding opportunities. This training brought over 50 prevention and treatment professionals in the state of Delaware to discuss topics on strategic planning, essential business practices, financial management, fund development and fundraising, expanding service capacity, effective marketing strategies and evaluation.

June 28–29, 2010, DPBHS hosted Delaware’s 17th Annual Prevention Forum at the Dover Sheraton in Dover. This two-day conference hosted 233 engaged delegates in best practices, as well as evidence-based strategies, and policies pertaining to prevention in our statewide, regional and local communities.

On August 7, 2010 DPBHS in coordination with the Delaware Prevention Network Alliance, held the 3rd Annual Teen Summit. A part of the weekend long included the “Hollywood Invades Delaware II” series of events, the Teen Summit brought over 600 of Delaware’s youth and their parents to Downtown Wilmington’s Doubletree Hotel for a full day of educational workshops on multiple prevention topics.

August 9-11, 2010 DSAMH sponsored Cultural Competency trainings throughout the State of Delaware with the support of the Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies (CAPT) Northeast and Central Regional Expert Team. Over 100 people participated in this free training centered around enhancing the participants understanding of cultural competency as well as identifying engagement strategies that help ensure community participation in the Strategic Prevention Framework – State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG).
**Delaware Strategic Prevention Framework-State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG)**

The Delaware Strategic Prevention Framework -State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG), awarded in July 2009, is a five year cooperative agreement between the Office of the Governor, the Substance Abuse Mental Health Service Administration– Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (SAMHSA-CSAP), and Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS). The grant is administered through the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH).

The goals of the SPF-SIG program are to provide funding to:
- Prevent the onset and reduce the progression of substance abuse, including childhood, and underage drinking;
- Reduce substance abuse-relate problems; and
- Build prevention capacity and infrastructure at the state and community-level.

The SPF-SIG has a SPF-SIG Advisory Council known as the Delaware Advisory Council. This council is the oversight and governing body for Delaware’s SPF-SIG.

**Contact Information**

Go to [http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dsamh/prevention.html](http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dsamh/prevention.html) to see The Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health’s Prevention Website to receive news on upcoming events, past events and prevention resources.

Need prevention resources?
Go to The Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services Resource Center website [http://www.deprc.com/](http://www.deprc.com/)

For more information on the Substance Abuse and Treatment Block Grant (SAPT BG) please contact: **Prevention Specialist/NPN Representative- Isabel. Rivera-Green@state.de.us** (302)255-4722.

For more information on the Strategic Prevention Framework– State Incentive Grant (SPF-SIG) please contact: **SPF-SIG Project Director- Cecilia.Willis@state.de.us (302) 255-9433** and/or **SPF-SIG Project Manager- Erica.Melman@state.de.us (302) 255-9428.**


We encourage feedback on *The Delaware Substance Abuse Prevention Newsletter*. Please send an email to DSAMH’s Prevention Team’s email address with questions and feedback to delawareprevention@state.de.us