



Who We Are and What We Do

The Coalition for Healthy & Safe Communities – Warren County Branch

The Coalition for Healthy & Safe Communities, a program of the [Family Guidance Center of Warren County](http://www.familyguidancecenter.org) works to create healthy and safe communities that are free from substance abuse, addiction and related issues among people of all ages throughout Warren County.

The Coalition is made up of professionals from multiple disciplines and parents who have a passion for the prevention and treatment of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse problems. Together they make up five different committees: Steering Committee, Underage Drinking, Illegal Substances, Prescription Medications, and the Data Work Group.

Funding for the Coalition is made possible through a grant from the division of Mental Health and Addiction Services in partnership with Sussex Center for Prevention and Counseling and the Drug Free Communities (DFC) Support Grant.

The goals for the coalition are as follows...

- 1) Strengthen the capacity of the coalition to reduce and prevent substance abuse by generating positive, lasting environmental change
- 2) Reduce underage drinking by addressing access, norms and laws/policies
- 3) Reduce the use of illegal substances among 10-25 year olds, with specific focus on marijuana and opioid use, by addressing access, norms and policies
- 4) Reduce prescription medication abuse among 10-25 year olds by addressing access, norms and laws/policies

How Initiatives Are Created:

All initiatives conducted by the coalition follow the Strategic Prevention Framework which starts with assessing community needs then moves on to capacity building where it recruits community members who then develop and implement their plans. After each initiative is evaluated, data is accumulated and then assessed for impacts or needs made within the community. Throughout each cycle the coalition keeps in mind cultural competency due to the fact that not all initiatives work in all places. Additionally, each initiative must be sustainable for the community so that the community can continue to provide these services for years to come.

All initiatives and programs are thoughtfully developed to contain more than one of the **Strategies for Community Change**¹ by either providing information, enhancing skills, providing support, enhancing access/removing barriers, changing consequences, changing physical design, or modifying/changing policy.

Please consider joining the coalition to help create healthier & safer communities. For more information contact Jenna Stoner JStoner@fgcwc.org.

1) Seven Strategies for Community Change

Providing Information – Educational presentations, workshops or seminars or other presentations of data (e.g., public announcements, brochures, dissemination, billboards, community meetings, forums, web-based communication).

Enhancing Skills – Workshops, seminars or other activities designed to increase the skills of participants, members and staff needed to achieve population level outcomes (e.g., training, technical assistance, distance learning, strategic planning retreats, curricula development).

Providing Support – Creating opportunities to support people to participate in activities that reduce risk or enhance protection (e.g., providing alternative activities, mentoring, referrals, support groups or clubs).

Enhancing Access/Reducing Barriers – Improving systems and processes to increase the ease, ability and opportunity to utilize those systems and services (e.g., assuring healthcare, childcare, transportation, housing, justice, education, safety, special needs, cultural and language sensitivity).

Changing Consequences (Incentives/Disincentives) – Increasing or decreasing the probability of a specific behavior that reduces risk or enhances protection by altering the consequences for performing that behavior (e.g., increasing public recognition for deserved behavior, individual and business rewards, taxes, citations, fines, revocations/loss of privileges).

Physical Design – Changing the physical design or structure of the environment to reduce risk or enhance protection (e.g., parks, landscapes, signage, lighting, outlet density).

Modifying/Changing Policies – Formal change in written procedures, by-laws, proclamations, rules or laws with written documentation and/or voting procedures (e.g., workplace initiatives, law enforcement procedures and practices, public policy actions, systems change within government, communities and organizations).

Join Our Coalition

The Coalition for Health and Safe Communities is made up of professionals from multiple disciplines and parents who have a passion for the prevention and treatment of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse problems. Stay up to date with the latest information; connect and network with local professional and communities members; participate and local actives; and provide your input.

Name

Organization

Email

Phone number

Thank you for your interest in keeping Warren County healthy and safe!



For Healthy & Safe Communities

A Program of the Family Guidance Center of Warren County

www.preventionconnectionsni.org