

Substance Abuse Update

June 2007

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations!

Debbie Synhorst has been elected President of the National Prevention Network (NPN). It is a national association of state prevention directors and coordinators for substance abuse prevention.

NPN is a component of the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, Inc. (NASADAD). The President of NPN serves as the Vice President for Prevention on the NASADAD Board of Directors. The position has a two year term.

BRAG AND BORROW: IDEAS FROM ACROSS THE STATE FOR YOU TO USE

Prevention of Methamphetamine Abuse Grant

Five Iowa communities have been working with a meth prevention grant for three years including: Clinton (ASAC/New Directions and Clinton Substance Abuse Council); Des Moines (Employee and Family Resources); Mt Pleasant (Henry County Extension); Waterloo (Pathways Behavioral Services); Mason City (Prairie Ridge).

The project period ended in March 2007. The projects included evidence-based prevention programs, such as LifeSkills Training, the Strengthening Families Program, and Reconnecting Youth. In addition, each community offered meth education programs and worked on sustainability plans for continuing efforts after the grant ended.

Two special projects completed during the grant period were writing success stories and working on a guide for prevention specialists to implement prevention programs in schools, titled School-Based Collaboration: A Readiness Guide for Prevention Professionals.

Limited numbers of the guide were printed; however we hope to have the guide available electronically on the University of Iowa Consortium for Research and Evaluation website. Look for future announcements or contact Marilyn Alger, malger@idph.state.ia.us

To contact one of the grant agencies for information about their success stories or questions about their meth prevention work and project results contact: Leslie Mussmann (Clinton) lmussmann@asac.us; Erin Essy (Des Moines) eessy@efr.org; Janet Smith (Henry County, Mt Pleasant) jansmith@iastate.edu; Alice Baruth (Waterloo) alice_baruth@pathwaysb.org; and Jay Pedelty (Mason City) jpedelty@prairieridge.net

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN IOWA

Supporting School Success

Please join in congratulating Colorado, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Ohio and Rhode Island as grantees in the Supporting Student Success initiative.

This joint initiative is supported by the Council of Chief State School Officers, National Conference of State Legislatures and National Governors Association Center for Best Practices. The grants will support each state's plan to develop, adopt and implement state policies that better integrate expanded learning opportunities—such as afterschool, summer learning and extended day and year programs—into state education systems.

Iowa will focus on increasing access to expanded learning opportunities among middle and high school students to help prepare them to graduate high school ready to succeed.

The Iowa Department of Education is the grant recipient.

LOOKING AHEAD

State Epidemiological Outcome Workgroup

The State Epidemiological Outcome Workgroup (SEOW) has received a second year of funding from the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.

A State Epidemiological Profile will be distributed and a community profile will be developed. These documents will be helpful for needs assessments. For questions contact Debbie Synhorst at the Iowa Department of Public Health, Division of Behavioral Health, dsynhors@idph.state.ia.us

2007 Prevention Symposium

Save the Date! The conference will be held September 6 and 7, 2007 at The Meadows in Altoona, Iowa. Visit the Training Resources website for conference updates, <http://www.trainingresources.org>

This is an electronic newsletter coordinated and distributed by the Iowa Substance Abuse Information Center (ISAIC). If you have questions regarding one of this month's news items, please direct your questions to the contact person mentioned in the article.

If you have feedback, suggestions, or information to share, please send it to Barb Gay, gayb@crlibrary.org

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