

Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

Coalition Mission

To serve the Darrington community with courage and compassion by identifying, educating and promoting positive activities in order to reduce substance abuse.



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Marree Perrault has been a Darrington resident since childhood and has been working in the field of prevention since 2007. She graduated from Western State University College of Law in 2014. In 2017, she received her Certified Prevention Professional License from the Prevention Specialist Certification Board of Washington.



About the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI):

CPWI is a partnership of state agencies, counties, schools and local prevention coalitions supporting communities in preventing alcohol and other drug abuse and its negative consequences. CPWI priorities include reducing underage drinking, marijuana use and opioid misuse/abuse among middle and high school aged youth. By providing evidence-based practices and promoting the positive changes in communities, we can build healthier communities.

About the Coalition: Communities and Schools Working Together

The Darrington Prevention Intervention Community Coalition (DPICC) is a grassroots volunteer organization established in January 2011 to prevent and reduce underage drinking and other substance abuse in Darrington. DPICC members are committed to serving our community by overcoming substance abuse with courage, compassion and proven prevention programs.

To fulfill our commitment, DPICC and community members collaborate with three vital partners, the Darrington School District, North Counties' Family Services and the Town of Darrington. These agencies support prevention programs for youth and are strong advocates for pro-prevention policies.

Additionally, DPICC focuses on community collaboration with multiple partners to ensure the Coalition's long-term sustainability and success. These valuable partners include: Darrington Pharmacy, Mountain View Baptist Church, Cascade Senior Center, Educational Service District (ESD) 189, Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, IGA Grocery Store, Mountain Loop Books and Coffee, First Baptist Church, US Forest Service, Darrington Clinic, Snohomish County Sheriff's Office and many others.

Stakeholders in Darrington view their neighbors as their greatest strength, describing them as resilient, generous and dynamic people who want to be involved. Darrington's greatest strength can also be categorized as a challenge because it leads to suspicion of help and services coming from outside of the community. Darrington is also a geographically isolated and because of this there is additional vulnerability to underage substance abuse and generational substance abuse.

Other Contacts

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CPWI is funded by:



Transforming lives

For more information about CPWI visit DSHS.wa.gov/CPWI



About Our Community

Darrington is a small, close-knit rural timber community with a country atmosphere nestled in the heart of the Cascades. Although known as a “timber town,” the Darrington community has had to search for a new economic identity because of the struggling logging industry. Recently, Darrington has been identified as the “hidden gem” of the outdoor recreation world due to the vast outdoor recreational opportunities surrounding the town.

Our community of about 1,385 is predominantly white, and also home to nearly 200 Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe members. We are a growing retirement-age community. The Darrington School District educates nearly 400 students yearly on a single Pre-K-12 campus. The 2015 Census reports the median income for a household as \$34,167, and the mean income for a family as \$44,583.

In our 2017 Strategic Plan Update, we have prioritized the following four risk factors and one protective factor to reduce underage drinking and other substance abuse. These include:

- Community Laws and Norms Favorable to Drug Use, such as social availability and perception of harm
- Family Management Problems
- Early Initiation
- Friends Who Engage in The Problem Behavior
- Community/School Bonding

About Prevention Programs in our Community

Coalition prevention efforts in Darrington are focused in areas with higher risks. Coalition members selected specific prevention programs and strategies to influence the identified factors at the school and community level. Upcoming efforts will also focus on environmental factors that can lead to underage substance abuse, such as school and city policies.

DPICC participation in the CPWI has resulted in a substantial benefit to the community, including funding for paid Coalition staff and a school-based Prevention/Intervention Specialist, as well as funding for program implementation. This includes:

- The Evidence-Based (EB) Good Behavior Game implemented in K-8 classrooms
- Keep a Clear Mind (EB), a take-home substance abuse education program for 4th, 5th and 6th grade students
- Parenting Wisely (EB) curriculum adapted for 11th and 12th grade students
- Mentoring High Risk Youth, which serves youth ages 6-17
- Students in grades 6-12 who participate in the Darrington Youth Coalition
- Strengthening Families – Ages 10-14 Iowa Version

All Coalition programs are evaluated for effectiveness through pre and post-surveys.