

SE Seattle P.E.A.C.E. Coalition Strategic Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The SE Seattle P.E.A.C.E. Coalition (Prevention Education and Action for Community Empowerment) was formed in October 2012 by Southeast Seattle service providers, parents, Aki Kurose Middle School staff, and concerned citizens. The mission of our Coalition is to educate, empower, and mobilize Southeast Seattle to ensure our kids are safe, happy, and healthy so they can learn. Our Coalition strives to reduce and prevent youth substance abuse and violence in Southeast Seattle using culturally appropriate strategies.

Our Coalition is funded through the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)—Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) Prevention Redesign Initiative (PRI), and King County Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Program, with additional support from Puget Sound Educational Service District, Therapeutic Health Services, and Seattle Public Schools. Neighborhood House was selected as our Coalition's fiscal sponsor and staffs our Coalition.

Our Coalition serves Southeast Seattle, which is located between Interstate 5 on the west, Lake Washington on the east, Interstate 90 on the north, and Seattle's city limit boundary on the south. Southeast Seattle includes two large, mixed-income public housing communities, Rainier Vista and New Holly, and is home to Seattle's most diverse and lowest income families, as well as many middle-income and affluent families. The focus of our work is at Aki Kurose Middle School as well as the schools feeding into and out of Aki Kurose however all schools in SE Seattle will be engaged in our work.

Our Coalition's long-term goals are to increase school performance, decrease youth delinquency, and improve youth mental health. These goals will be achieved by decreasing drug and alcohol use and abuse in Southeast Seattle by decreasing 12 significant risk factors and maintaining or increasing five protective factors.

The following five strategies have been developed to address the specific local conditions in Southeast Seattle: (a) coordination of the P.E.A.C.E. Coalition, (b) raising public awareness of drug and alcohol issues, as well as prevention and treatment resources, (c) environmental strategies such as security cameras and drug and alcohol policy change, (d) school-based prevention-intervention services focused at Aki Kurose Middle School, and (e) direct services including parent and youth education classes, youth engagement, and arts and cultural programs with a prevention focus.

Beginning May 1st 2013 our Coalition will begin implementing the Action Plan. Coalition Committees, staff and in some cases paid consultants or partner agencies will be assigned to carry out each strategy.

Each year our Coalition will evaluate each strategy for effectiveness and review local data to measure the progress toward achieving our goals. When planning, implementing, and evaluating our Coalition's activities we will pay particular attention to cultural competence to ensure our work meets the needs of Southeast Seattle's diverse communities.