

Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

Mission: We are a collaboration of community partners working together to better connect services and better serve community members in western Klickitat and eastern Skamania counties.

Vision: Improve the health of individuals and the community as a whole;

Improve Mental Health, School Performance, and Youth Delinquency through addressing behavioral health problems that focus on youth substance misuse

Values: Health equity, cultural humility, community-based, collaboration

K-Link Group

CPWI White Salmon



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 youth substance misuse and its negative consequences.

CPWI is a community and school-based model for delivering prevention programs and strategies to reduce underage misuse and abuse of alcohol, marijuana, opioids, tobacco, and other drugs. This model uses a data-informed, community-level decision making process to determine root social and emotional causes that predict problem behaviors.

By providing evidence-based practices and promoting the positive changes in communities, we can build healthier communities.

About the Coalition: Communities & Schools Working Together

K-Link was established in 2019 as a collaboration of community partners working together to better connect services and better serve community members in western Klickitat and eastern Skamania counties in Washington State.

The Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative (CPWI) of K-Link Group began in Summer 2021, with financial & technical assistance from the Division of Behavioral Health & Recovery (DBHR), & with WAGAP as the fiscal sponsor. K-Link Group (White Salmon Coalition) is a Cohort 7 CPWI Community in Washington State.

Community partners include various sectors, including healthcare, schools, youth-serving, law enforcement, local agencies, civic, behavioral health, & parents, and are expanding.

K-Link meetings are led by Paul Lindberg, Collective Impact Health Specialist & K-Link Project Director. Kristen McReath, CPWI Director, coordinates CPWI strategic planning, action planning, & budgeting. Michelle Ward, Student Assistance Professional, works directly with students in the White Salmon Valley School District. She provides prevention education, referrals, screening, assessment for services, counseling, & support groups at the middle and high school level.

CPWI is funded by

Washington State
Health Care Authority

For more information
about CPWI visit

www.TheAthenaForum.org



About Prevention Programs in our Community

The CPWI efforts are focused on *upstream* prevention, specifically youth substance misuse prevention.

The priority areas of effort include preventing opioid and Rx drug misuse, underage alcohol misuse & heavy drinking, as well as vaping, through focusing on addressing risk factors of community disorganization, availability, favorable attitudes, and early initiation of use, and protective factors of peer bonding and family bonding. Current strategies are listed in the circles to the right.

K-Link Group will utilize existing partnerships & create new partnerships to implement evidence based & innovative activities in a culturally relevant, sustainable way. CPWI is a data-informed initiative. Process and outcome measures will be recorded for each strategy for evaluation purposes. Data is reported to the Division of Behavioral Health & Recovery (DBHR) within the Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA), and will be shared with the community as well.

About Our Community

This CPWI funding through K-Link Group serves the area of the White Salmon Valley School District (WSVSD). This area is in southern Washington State, near the Columbia River, in between Mt. Adams and Mt. Hood. It is home to almost 9,000 people, with many people traveling here for seasonal work and tourism.

White Salmon Valley School District is a small, consolidated district of approximately 1,250 students, and includes the cities of White Salmon and Bingen, and the outlying areas of Husum, Underwood and Snowden. White Salmon Valley School District includes Hulan L. Whitson Elementary School (K-3), Wallace & Priscilla Stevenson Intermediate School (4- 6), Henkle Middle School (7-8), Columbia High School (9-12), and White Salmon Academy (Alternative High School). There are also public pre-k options in partnership with the district & other local agencies. In addition, there are private school options serving pre-k through 6th grade in the area.

Contacts

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