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**OPA FAQ**

* **What is OPA?** ONE PREVENTION ALLIANCE COALITION OF SKAMANIA COUNTY (OPA) is a volunteer group of community members representing different interests (businesses, churches, law enforcement, parents, youth, healthcare organizations, counselors and school personnel) working to provide drug/alcohol prevention services to the residents of Skamania County.
* **Is there really a youth alcohol problem in Skamania County?** Yes, in the most recent Washington State Healthy Youth Survey, Skamania County youth reported that 25% of 10th graders and 50% of 12 graders drank alcohol in the past 30 days. Also, 16% of 10th graders reported “Problem & Heavy” Drinking.
* **What are all the acronyms?**
* CPWI = Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative
* DFC = Drug Free Communities
* DBHR = Division of Behavioral Health & Recovery
* DSHS = Department of Social & Health Services
* CADCA = Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
* ESD = Educational Service District (ESD112-Vancouver, WA)
* HYS = Washington State Healthy Youth Survey
* CPTED = Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
* WSLCB = Washington State Liquor Control Board
* ONDCP = Office of National Drug Control Policy
* EBP = Evidence Based Practices
* ACE’s Adverse Childhood Experiences Study
* ATOD = Alcohol, Tobacco, Other Drugs
* I-502 = Initiative 502 passed by voters in Washington State in 2012, will license and regulate marijuana production, distribution, and possession for persons over 21; removed state-law criminal and civil penalties for activities that it authorizes. Tax marijuana sales and earmark marijuana-related revenues. I-502 authorizes individuals twenty-one (21) years of age or older to legally possess and use marijuana-related paraphernalia and any combination of:
* One (1) ounce of useable marijuana;
* Sixteen (16) ounces of marijuana infused product in solid form; or
* Seventy-two (72) ounces of marijuana infused product in liquid form
* **What are the Seven Strategies of Community Change?** The Seven Strategies of Community Change are seven (7) methods that can bring about community change and have been adopted as a useful prevention framework by CADCA. Each of these strategies represents a key element to build and maintain a healthy community. In planning prevention programs, it is best to utilize all seven strategies to be as comprehensive as possible to achieve population-level change. The strategies often overlap and enhance each other.

The Seven Strategies for Community Change are:

1. 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).
2. 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).
3. Providing Support-Creating opportunities to support people to participate in activities to reduce risk or enhance protection (e.g., providing alternative activities, mentoring referrals, support groups or clubs)
4. 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).
5. 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).
6. Physical Design – Changing the physical design or structure of the environment to reduce risk or enhance protection (e.g., parks, landscapes, lighting, signage, outlet density).
7. 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).
* **What can I do to help?** Volunteer, ask questions. CONTACT OPA @ 509-427-9490 ask to speak to the Prevention Services Coordinator, or like us on facebook @ **facebook.com/OnePreventionAlliance**
* **What is CPWI?** The Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) is a partnership of state agencies, counties, schools and prevention coalitions supporting communities in preventing alcohol and other drug abuse. The highest priority is to reduce underage drinking among 8th and 10th grade students. One Prevention Alliance Coalition is a participant in the Washington State CPWI.
* **Where does OPA get its’ funds to operate and provide services to Skamania County?** OPA gets *ALL OF ITS’ FUNDS* from CPWI.
* **How many years will OPA receive funding from this existing grant?** CPWI is a five (5) year funding source. The funding amount is $85,000 per year.
* **Does OPA have a website?** Yes. It is: [www.onepreventionalliance.org](http://www.onepreventionalliance.org)
* **Does OPA address child abuse/neglect or domestic violence?** No, not specifically. Some of the strategies may have a positive impact on either of these issues, but the primary focus is reducing alcohol, tobacco and other drug use (ATOD) in youth.
* **Is OPA really trying to change the entire counties’ culture around drug use?**

OPA is committed to providing information and trainings to the community as well as working toward supporting policies, procedures and local ordinances that create barriers to youth accessing ATOD.

* **Has the passage of Initiative 502 (Legalization of Recreational Marijuana in WA State) created problems in Skamania County?** Yes, but there will always be a need for programs and environmental strategies that focus on mitigating the abuse or illegal use of ATOD.
* **Are there other coalitions in Washington and does OPA work with them on joint efforts?** Yes, all thirty-nine (39) counties in Washington State have at least one coalition. OPA works closely with our neighboring counties to provide prevention services to our residents. (Klickitat County, Clark County)
* **What is the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS)?**  It is a survey of 8th, 10th & 12th grade students sponsored by The WA State Department of Health, the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Department of Social and Health Services, The Family Policy Council, The Department of Commerce and the Washington State Liquor Control Board in cooperation with schools throughout Washington State and including Wind River Middle School and Stevenson High School in Skamania County. The survey is conducted every two (2) years. The next HYS is scheduled for the Fall of 2014. The survey measures health risk behaviors that contribute to morbidity, mortality, and social problems among youth in Washington state. These behaviors include alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, behaviors that result in unintentional and intentional injuries (e.g., violence), dietary behaviors, physical activity, and related risk and protective factors.