## C:\Users\mrawson.RMC\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\JIRYT3JF\Official DSHS-DBHR_logo.JPGSummary

Communities with Stronger Implementation of the SPF Model Achieve
Better Prevention-Related Outcomes

*Findings from the Washington State SPF SIG*

Communities with stronger implementation of the five-step Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) achieve greater reductions in underage drinking and associated risk factors, according to findings from the Washington State SPF SIG project. Using a detailed rating protocol of the quality of SPF implementation, four Washington communities were rated as strong implementers of the SPF model, five were classified as moderately strong implementers and three were classified as poor implementers.

## Underage Drinking

Biennial trends in underage drinking among eighth graders were examined using a composite of 30-day alcohol use and binge drinking items from the state adolescent health behavior survey. All three groups had higher underage drinking rates than the state as a whole in 2004 because this history was a criterion for SPF SIG funding eligibility. Community funding began in 2006.

* Both moderate and strong SPF implementers showed declines in underage drinking in 2008 and maintained these declines in 2010.
* Poor implementers showed increases in underage drinking over this time period.
* Differences in these trends are highly statistically significant (*F* = 5.80, *p* < .001).

Eighth Grade Alcohol Use in Washington Communities
That Varied in Strength of SPF Implementation

Experimental Use

No Use

## Risk for AOD Use

Similar results were shown for the percent of 8th grade students classified as “at risk” for alcohol and other drug (AOD) use across a battery of risk factors assessed on the state survey.

* Both moderate and strong implementers of the SPF showed declines in the percentage of youth at risk of AOD use over this time period.
* Poor implementers showed an increase over time in percent of students deemed at risk of alcohol and other drug use.
* Differences in these trends are highly statistically significant (F=10.26, p<.001)

Percent of Eighth Graders at Risk of AOD Use in Washington Communities
that Varied in Strength of SPF Implementation

**Notes:**

The quality of SPF implementation was measured using rating scales developed by a national workgroup consisting of state SPF SIG project directors and evaluators and members of the Cohort I/II cross-site evaluation team. Each SPF step was operationalized by 6-11 core activities (a total of 44 across the 5 steps) and the quality of implementation of each activity was assessed using a four point rating scale.

Underage drinking was measured using a composite of 30-day alcohol use and binge drinking items on the statewide Healthy Youth Survey resulting in four categories of alcohol use: no use, experimental use, heavy use, and problem use.

Total Risk was measured by the average percent of youth above the “at risk” cutoff across 16 risk factors (Hawkins, Catalano & Associates, 1992) included on the statewide Healthy Youth Survey.

For further background on these findings, contact Roy Gabriel (rgabriel@rmccorp.com ) or Gillian Leichtling (gleichtling@rmccorp.com), RMC Research Corporation.