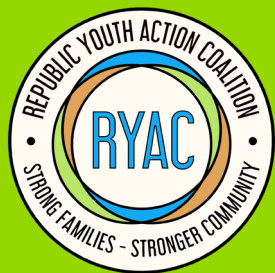


Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

Coalition Mission

“To provide education and opportunities to support youth, families, and the community in making healthy choices regarding drug and alcohol use”



Coalition Coordinator

Aaron Urseth

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Bio: In January 2017, Aaron Urseth began working as the coalition coordinator for Republic Youth Action Coalition.

Aaron has a passion for working with youth, and a strong desire to see them achieve healthy and productive lives. He has proudly called Republic home since 2015.

Republic Youth Action Coalition

Republic, WA



About the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI)

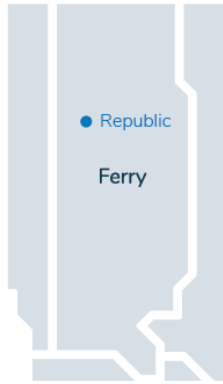
CPWI is a partnership of state agencies, counties, schools and local prevention coalitions supporting communities in preventing alcohol and other drug abuse and its negative consequences. CPWI priorities include reducing underage drinking, marijuana use and opioid misuse/abuse among middle and high school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

About the Coalition: Communities & Schools Working Together

Republic Youth Action Coalition (RYAC) was originally founded under a different name, What's Right? Republic Reducing Alcohol and Drug use (RRAD), in 2013. In 2017, the coalition hired a new coordinator and changed its name to RYAC. The coalition exists to reduce underage drinking and substance use and abuse, and we have planned and implemented several programs and strategies within the community to achieve our goals.

RYAC is actively rebuilding capacity to better serve the community of Republic. Our coalition receives support from a variety of local agencies and organizations. To better reflect the community of Republic, RYAC seeks to continually strive to increase its reach by identifying and developing new collaborative opportunities with other community sectors.

The members of RYAC continue to grow in their understanding of prevention science and their ability to implement that knowledge into effective programs and strategies. As RYAC membership grows in size and ability, we plan to offer additional evidence-based programs to increase our reach within the community.



About Our Community

Republic's heritage lies in mining and logging. It became an incorporated town on May 22, 1900.

The most recent census data, from 2020, reported Republic's population at 1,144 people. The media age in Republic is 52.1 years, and median household income is \$32,639. Republic's demographic breakdown is as follows: 79.5% white, 13.5% two or more races, 4.37% Hispanic, .7% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, 1.05% black or African-American, .52% American Indian and Alaskan Native, and .175% Asian.

Our community is strongly individualistic yet largely unified, and we have a deep sense of pride. Economically, our community is facing difficult times. Republic is geographically isolated, being guarded by mountain passes to the East and West, Canada to the North, and the main access point from the South is a ferry, which makes increasing economic growth even more difficult. Resources for individuals and families dealing with substance abuse issues are scarce in part because of the isolation and diminishing economy. Our natural resources, tourism potential, and community resilience give hope and cause for optimism for the future.

About Prevention Programs in our Community

RYAC utilizes a comprehensive approach to serve our youth and families and achieve our goals. We seek to serve Republic at the individual, school, family, and community level to reduce substance use and abuse. Below is a sample of our goals, objectives, and strategies:

Goal 1: Decrease low neighborhood attachment & community disorganization

Objective 1.1: Increase community capacity to address alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) use.

Strategy 1.1.1: Increase membership on coalition from groups that are currently under-represented, specifically representatives from the medical professional, parents, and youth sectors.

Strategy 1.1.2: Disseminate coalition information to the community through media, forums, community group meetings, invitations to the general public to join with special focus on under-represented groups, and other events.

Our strategies and programs are all evaluated through State-approved and expertly designed tools and surveys.

Other Contacts

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CPWI is funded by

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For more information
about CPWI visit
www.TheAthenaForum.org