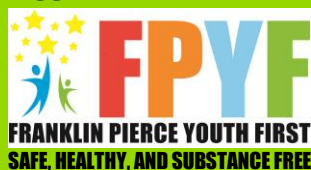


Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

Coalition Mission

The mission of Franklin Pierce YOUTH FIRST is to mobilize community members and resources to support families and provide an environment in which youth will grow up emotionally and physically healthy, safe and alcohol and drug free.



www.fpyouthfirst.com

Coalition Coordinator

Rebecca Morales
253-298-4059
rmorales@fpschools.org

Bio: Rebecca has worked in the Franklin Pierce community since 2017. As a community organizer and advocate, she is very passionate about serving those in need, and enjoys working with the various partners and community members providing a safe, healthy and substance free environment for youth and their families.

Franklin Pierce Youth First

Tacoma, 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

Franklin Pierce has high rates of mobility, poverty and other risks. Despite the challenges faced in the Franklin Pierce community, there are resources within the coalition with many service providers and the school district taking active and pivotal roles. Additionally, Pacific Lutheran University, Garfield Business Association and key businesses and groups are resources in creating further economic growth and opportunities for the community.

As a community with no town center or governing council, no major industries and a transient population, the schools are frequently the hub of the unity and access to resources – Franklin Pierce School District is a key resource. In 2001, Franklin Pierce Youth First grew from a few people with a commitment to prevention into an active change agent for the community. The partnership with the district and Youth First has been equally collaborative with services and programs such as Life Skills, Guiding Good Choices, after school programs, Youth Late Nights and many others resulting from the partnership.

Additional resources include several churches providing meeting space, volunteers, Kiwanis and Rotary; local libraries; and numerous social service providers.



About Our Community

The Franklin Pierce Youth First Coalition (FPYF) serves the geographic catchment area of the Franklin Pierce School District (FPSD), near Tacoma Washington. It is entirely in unincorporated Pierce County and encompasses the Parkland, Summit, and Midland communities. The area is a suburban community with no town center, no governing town council, no major industry, and a large transient population. The community is rapidly changing and best described as rapidly changing, from poverty and ethnicity to problem rates and local laws.

As of May 2019, 8,091 students were enrolled. 51.8% of students are male and 48.2% female. The poverty level, as reflected by the percentage of students qualified for Free and Reduced-cost Lunch, is currently 78% having more than doubled since 1999. The ethnic diversity also continues to change rapidly. Most notably, our Hispanic/Latino community has more than doubled in the past eight years increasing from 11% in 2006 to 30.5% in 2019 with the white community decreasing from 52% in 2006 to 31% in 2019, and students of 2 or more races consisting of 15.8% of the student population. Diversity is a benefit and our strategies must continually evolve to meet the changes residents are experiencing.

The school district is the strongest advocate and supporter of youth and families, with mental health services, drug and alcohol treatment and community coalition efforts housed within school buildings. This passionate community is building a culture of care and support in spite of multiple barriers.

About Prevention Programs in our Community

Goals and Strategies

- Increase community connectedness and readiness
- Reduce youth substance abuse
- Increase family management skills
- Reduce perception of peer alcohol use & increase perception of harm

Many programs and strategies are coalition and community based, striving to meet the cultural needs and engage all sectors in prevention.

Youth Programs

Intervention Case Management
Project SUCCESS
Life Skills
Youth Nights

Community Programs

Fun Run and Discovery Fair
Networking events
School/provider collaboration

Parent Programs

Hidden in Plain Sight
Guiding Good Choices

Other Contacts



Student Assistance Program Specialist

Jessica Gonzalez

253-298-4870

jgonzalez@fpschools.org

Bio: Jessica has worked with the PSESd, FPYF, Keithley MS, and Washington HS since 2018. As a Student Assistant Specialist, she works to build relationships with students, families, staff, and community organizations for the health and wellbeing of the students. She also brings awareness to topics such as substance abuse and mental health by partnering and collaborating with others to build and provide a safe environment for the Keithley MS and Washington HS community.

CPWI is funded by

Washington State
Health Care Authority

For more information
about CPWI visit

www.TheAthenaForum.org