

# Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

## Coalition Mission

East Valley Community Coalition empowers our community through education and substance abuse prevention to promote safe and healthy individuals in all families and neighborhoods.



## Coalition Coordinator

Kirsten Fuchs

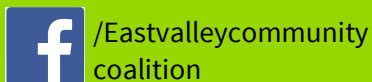
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## East Valley Community Coalition

### East Valley



### 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 build healthier communities.

### About the Coalition: Communities & Schools Working Together

The Coalition, formed in early 2013 uses a combination of evidenced-based practices, environmental strategies and public awareness campaigns to educate our community.

Members of the coalition represent several sectors of the community including schools, businesses, faith based organizations, substance abuse treatment agencies, parents, youth serving agencies, mental health agencies, law enforcement, and public health.

As a part of this project, NEWESD 101 places one full time prevention and intervention specialist, called a Student Assistance Professional, at East Valley High School to serve students.

This coalition seeks community partners who are interested in providing evidence-based prevention services and working on prevention initiatives. The coalition meets monthly on every fourth Tuesday at 3:00 PM in the East Valley High School Career Center.

## About Our Community

Following the Spokane School District, the East Valley School District catchment area, hereafter referred to as Spokane East Valley, was shown in the Spokane County Community Risk Profile as having the next highest risk ranking of all fourteen Spokane County school district catchment areas. The community of Spokane East Valley is contained within the East Valley School District catchment area. It is bordered to the east by the Washington-Idaho border, to the south by the Spokane River and Indiana Avenue from Sullivan to the I-90 Intersection, to the west at the West Valley School District border, and to the north by the Mead School District border. A high percentage of the population is low income: over one-quarter of the children live in poverty, and more than half are eligible for free or reduced lunches.



Coalition members are concerned about the following risk factors that exist in the community:

- Consequences – School performance, youth delinquency (substance use and driving under the influence of substances) and mental health/depression
- Consumption Patterns – Any underage drinking, current tobacco use, current e-cigarette (any ‘Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems’ also known as vaping devices) use, current marijuana use, and current prescription drug use.
- Risk and Protective Factors – Community disorganization and community connectedness, availability, youth perceptions: lack of enforcement and risk, early initiation of use, low commitment to school and lack of prosocial skills, parent attitudes tolerant of substance use, and poor family management

## About Prevention Programs in our Community

Strategies selected by the coalition to combat these risks include parent education sessions and information nights, youth education like Too Good for Drugs taught in seventh – ninth grade health class, positive social norms campaigning, and drug take back events. The Coalition has an active youth coalition in the high school and additional evidence based programming for youth and families is provided community wide through a multitude of education campaigns and programs. The effectiveness of prevention programs in a community are measured by the Healthy Youth Survey, the annual community survey, decreases in legal issues related to substance use and increases in healthy habits among community members.

## Other Contacts

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**CPWI is funded by**

Washington State  
Health Care Authority

For more information  
about CPWI visit

[www.TheAthenaForum.org](http://www.TheAthenaForum.org)