

# Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

## Coalition Mission

We work to organize a coalition of parents, students, and community organizations, to identify the risks and needs within our community. We want to keep the community informed of drug and alcohol issues within Othello. We believe in creating a healthy community and empowering young people to make choices that will set them up for a lifetime of success. Together we will work specifically on keeping youth away from illegal drugs and alcohol use through meaningful action and education.



**P.A.I.D.**

People Against Illegal Drugs

## Coalition Coordinator

**Sandra Gomez**

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## Adams County Integrated Health Care Services

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## P.A.I.D People Against Illegal Drugs

### Othello

#### 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.



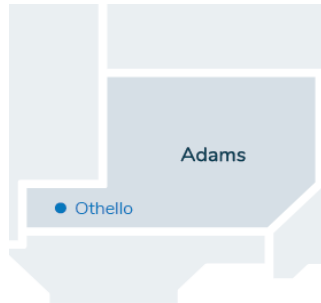
#### About the Coalition: Communities & Schools Working Together

The Othello P.A.I.D Coalition “People Against Illegal Drugs” is a “grassroots” organization that began in 1985. After several alcohol-related fatalities within the community, a group of concerned residents came together to raise parental awareness about alcohol and drug use by local youth.

Our coalition member’s represent many sectors, including schools, law enforcement, and juvenile services. These sectors are represented by the following organizations: Adams County Juvenile Court, Othello School District, Adams Integrated Health Care Services, Adams County Health Department, Adams County Prosecuting Attorney, Othello Police Department, ESD 123, parents, youth, and business owners.

Over the past year the coalition formed a Student Youth Prevention Group that will increase youth interest in taking an active role in substance abuse prevention with their friends and peer group.

Our coalition is very engaged and enthusiastic about making positive changes in our community



## About Our Community

Othello, located in the Panhandle of Adams County, is the “Heart of the Columbia Basin” with a population of approximately 8,386. Geographically Othello is 3.81 square miles. Othello is 45 miles west of Ritzville, which serves as the county seat.

The 2019 U.S. Census Bureau showed Othello’s racial makeup is 63.8% White, 1.7% Black or African American, 6.4% American Indian and Alaska Native, 1.5% Asian, 79.8% Hispanic or Latino origin, and 18.3% white-, non-Hispanic or Latino.

The median income for a household in the community is \$47, 243, compared to Washington State which is \$78,687. The per-capita income for Othello was \$20,462. About 28.2% of families are below the poverty line, compared to the rest of Washington State’s rate of 9.8%

## About Prevention Programs in our Community

We work...

- To increase youth competence with communication, problem solving, and interactions with others by offering the **Second Step** program.
- To reduce youth access to alcohol in Othello by hosting **Town Hall Meetings**.
- To reduce community laws and norms favorable to alcohol use in the Othello Community by running a **local media campaign**, addressing **social norms**, and supporting a **social host ordinance**.
- To decrease youth’s favorable attitudes towards substance abuse by providing prevention and intervention services through **Project Success** program.
- To increase positive family interactions among Othello parents and guardians by providing the **Strengthening Families Program**.
- To decrease classroom disruptions and increase student social/emotional learning through the **Good Behavior Game**.
- To decrease juvenile risky behavior with the **Keepin’ it REAL program** taught by our local School Resource Officers.

The effectiveness of coalition efforts is measured by participant surveys.

## Other Contacts



### Student Assistance Professional

ESD 123

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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)