



## Washington Association for Substance Abuse & Violence Prevention

### 2021 Legislative Priorities

1. **Grow Safe and Equitable Communities** with legislation that builds safe and healthy communities in partnership with local and state partners.
  - a. Support prevention research and dissemination of accurate data.
  - b. Support suicide prevention legislation.
  - c. Support measures that limit access to firearms.
  - d. Support measures that assure environmental safety and justice as they relate to tobacco, marijuana, and vaping products, e.g. safe disposal.
2. **Reduce Youth Access** to marijuana, alcohol, vape, tobacco and other substances of abuse.
  - a. Support pre-COVID restrictions on sales including curbside and delivery.
  - b. Oppose home grows of marijuana.
  - c. Support legislation that restricts high potency THC products.
3. **Support Enforcement of Rules and Laws** that set clear restrictions on underage use.
  - a. Support and expand retail accountability of marijuana, alcohol and vape market laws and regulations.
  - b. Ensure enforcement is equitable, trauma-informed, and supports social justice.
4. **Strengthen Healthy Community Norms** that support drug and alcohol-free youth.
  - a. Oppose legislation that erodes healthy community norms around underage substance use.
  - b. Support legislation that limits expansion of the addictive substance markets into communities and locations frequented by youth.
  - c. Support legislation to achieve positive youth development by funding programs that expands social and emotional learning and reduces unhealthy youth behavior in an equitable way.

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#### **WASAVP Operating Definition of Prevention**

*With respect to human services, prevention consists of methods or activities that seek to reduce or deter specific or predictable problems, protect the current state of well-being, or promote desired outcomes or behaviors. The term prevention is used to represent activities that stop an action or behavior which are applied at a population or community level. It can also be used to represent activities, strategies and policies that promote a positive action or behavior. Research has found that successful substance abuse and violence interventions must both reduce risk factors and promote protective factors to ensure the well-being of children, families and communities.*

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