

The Substance Abuse Connect Coalition is a cooperative, community-wide effort to substantially reduce drug-related crime and addiction in Yellowstone County through prevention, intervention and treatment and increased system capacity.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE CONNECT NEWSLETTER | JULY 2020

THE CHALLENGE

- Violent crime has been on the rise in Yellowstone County – up 81 percent from 2010-2017.
- The total number of positive methamphetamine tests for adults under the supervision of Billings Probation and Parole grew 865 percent from 2010-2018.
- Child neglect cases in Yellowstone County grew 149 percent from 2014-2018.
 80 percent of neglect cases in Yellowstone County are due to drugs, and 80 percent of those are due to methamphetamine.
- Meth is the #1 illicit drug of choice for patients in treatment in Yellowstone County.

RECENT ACTIVITY

Priority 1: System Capacity

- Data Dashboard launched for contractors and task force chairs
- Quarterly newsletters established

Priority 2: Diversion and Treatment

- Department of Corrections meeting held to lay the groundwork for future partnerships/collaborations
- Intensive case management pilot project launched at Probation and Parole

Priority 3: Prevention

- GOMO on-line support/informational services pilot program for pre-natal and mothers of young children launching
- Youth focus groups and youth SIM scheduled
- PAX good behavior support materials purchased & ready for distribution when school starts

WHAT'S NEXT?

Priority 1: System Capacity

- Rimrock Foundation, the Mental Health Center, and the Community Crisis Center are partnering to complete a grant application to Montana Board of Crime Control for \$100,000 to assist with PPE and enhancements to telehealth equipment to allow for the ability to continue to safely address substance addiction and mental health needs during Covid-19
- Continued Data Dashboard work on assessment and outcome features
- Completion of the Replication Toolkit

Priority 2: Diversion and Treatment

- Convening of County Match Grant stakeholders
- Hiring of an additional consultant to assist with coordination of deliverables for the 211 crisis line, mobile crisis response, joint task force with Continuum of Care and Law Enforcement/First Responder Training Curriculum/Format

Priority 3: Prevention

- Completion of youth focus groups and SIM and utilization of information gathered for a prevention media campaign
- Full implementation of the GOMO on-line program into the St. Vincent midwifery clinic and Riverstone Health referral/service systems
- Finalization of the Wake-Up Call event virtual and in-person content

PARTNER NEWS

- The 13th Judicial SOAR Court has arranged for virtual Peer Support training to be held September 14th-18th. The training is free, but registration is limited to the first 15 participants. The link to register is as follows: *https://mtpeernetwork.org/what-we-offer/trainings/ps101/*
- Kurt Alme was recently appointed co-chair of the USDOJ's efforts to implement the area of the President's Executive Order related to Mental Health, Homelessness and Addiction. This will mean direct access for the Coalition to federal financial and technical assistance resources moving forward. Congratulations and thank you for your service Kurt!

The Coalition is convened by, and receives systematic support from:



For more information or to become involved, please contact Becky Bey, Project Manager @ (406) 698-3668, or becky.bey@kljeng.com, or go to our website at https://www.unitedwayyellowstone.org/substance-abuse-connect.

United Way of Yellowstone County