

Illinois Alliance on Reducing Youth Substance Use
June 6, 2023
2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

The Illinois Alliance on Reducing Youth Substance Use allows stakeholders to:

- Share current youth substance use prevention efforts being implemented in the State of Illinois.
- Share information on best practices to reduce youth substance use.
- Share data and research on efforts to reduce youth substance use.
- Review the Illinois STOP ACT report.
- Unify prevention efforts in the State of Illinois.

MEETING MINUTES

Samantha Alonis, Deputy Director, IDHS Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery

- Opening remarks
- Update on STOP Act – working with the ILCC on survey
- Survey is due July 12
- Monitoring The Future website. Shows uptick in alcohol use in 2022 for 12th graders.

Jody Heavilin, APRC Administrator, Prevention First

- Brief agenda overview and welcome.
- Working on dates for FY24 meetings

Matt Cassity, Alliance Project Coordinator, Community Alliance for Prevention, 360 Youth Services

- IL Prevention Network Advocacy Day - April 18-19, 2023
- IPN is a newer group. Made up of coalitions and prevention professionals working towards common goals.
- Worked with Drug Free America to put together an advocacy day.
- Topics of focus:
 - Primary prevention
 - Marijuana
 - Alcopops
 - Kratom
- Approx. 40 youth and 15 adults in participation.
- Made legislative visits with many legislators.
- Advice on kratom legislation – reaching out to the legislator that wrote laws banning bath salts.
- Left one pagers on each topic above with each visit.
- Database put together to gather notes from all meetings.
- Another advocacy day event being tentatively planned for February 2024.

Jody Heavilin, APRC Administrator, Prevention First

- APRC is developing an Environmental Scanning toolkit.
- It will be available at the end of June on the APRC website.
- The Prevention Action Alert on cocktails to go is being updated.
- The APRC, CPRC, TSRC, and the YPRC collaborated on an Engaging Youth in Prevention webinar. It is available on the respective resource center's training page.
- There will be a part 2 featuring the YPRC Student Advisory Board.
- Kenny Williams with ILCC and Jody will be presenting at NPN in August in Birmingham, AL. The topic will be Addressing Alcohol Access through Partnership.
- Legislative update:
 - HB 2502 – alcopop placement bill. Bill has passed House but died in the Senate.
 - HB 4021 – lowering the drinking age to 21. Bill did not go anywhere.
 - SB 0043 – Remove cocktails to go sunset. Bill stalled in the Senate. It was put into an omnibus bill creating a public act. Public Act 103-0004 changed the sunset to August 1, 2028. The legislation is not dead, but the date has been pushed. There are 18 enforcement agents working for the ILCC to cover over 33,000 establishments in IL. If you are out and about and see a violation of the cocktails to go law, please report to ILCC. This is the only source of data on this topic.

Jacob Levinson, CPRC Administrator, Prevention First

- Lt. Hector Alejandro with ISP Cannabis Control offers his thanks for the work the Alliance is doing. His office has 14 inspectors. Tasked with conducting routine and monthly inspections at all cannabis related businesses.
- The CPRC is launching a directory of selected municipal ordinances around cannabis.
- Looking at municipalities that have their own ordinances above and beyond the state law
- Right now – there is no municipality that has established less than max tax
- Most municipalities have not regulated onsite consumption.
- Zoning – establishing setbacks for cannabis relation businesses.
- Haven't found any municipalities that have specific regulations around derivatives. Lt. Alejandro reports that Elk Grove recently passed an ordinance around derivatives.
- Social host laws – the state law has limited language. There have been a few municipalities that have updated social host with retail cannabis in mind.
- Rafael asks about local ordinances from other states. Jake reports that he has been working with the Network for Public Law and looking at how the IL laws are different.
- Jody and Jake want to better facilitate communication among alliance members between meetings.
- Proposing setting up a specific email for members to send items for sharing.
- On a specified basis, Prevention First would share anything sent to that email.
- The group thinks monthly would be sufficient for communication.

Randyl Wilkins, Mental Health & Youth Engagement Specialist, Prevention First

- The YPRC has selected the new Student Advisory Board
- 22 young people from across the state
- SAB retreat will take place June 10-11

Open to attendees for announcements

- Rafael asks about the CADCA coalition survey. He states that he has gotten feedback that it's too extensive.
- Kris and Matt have stated that they filled it out.
- Kris doesn't feel it's too long. Uses it more as a reflection tool.
- Kris reports that she is working on closing the loophole for farmers when it comes to cannabis derivatives. Met with Senator Derbins office about this. This work is being done in all states where cannabis is legalized and have a legislator on the agricultural committee.
- Buffalo Grove has received a zoning variance request for a dispensary that wants to be located 918 feet from a high school.

Samantha Alonis, Deputy Director, IDHS Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery

- Samantha thanked everyone for their contributions.

Meeting adjourned at 3:44 pm.