

PREVENTION FIRST[★]

LAW ENFORCEMENT & COALITION ENGAGEMENT



Partnership is Key to Success

Prevention coalitions comprise individuals and organizations from different sectors working together to improve the health and well-being of their communities. Many coalitions focus on youth substance use prevention. Coalitions are effective because they reach more than one person or entity. Law enforcement can benefit from engaging with or becoming members of community prevention coalitions.

1

DATA ACCESS

Coalitions can access and analyze youth survey data, such as the Illinois Youth Survey or the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Law enforcement can use such data to identify consumption rates, factors that contribute to youth use (such as locations where youth access alcohol or tobacco), and other data points, such as driving under the influence.

2

CAPACITY BUILDING

Coalitions can help build capacity for law enforcement-based prevention strategies to reduce youth substance use. Capacity building can also include partnership investments and team building. Coalitions may be able to provide opportunities for law enforcement to attend prevention conferences or trainings.

3

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Coalitions may be able to provide or sponsor training in evidence-based strategies, such as Controlled Party Dispersals or Alcohol Compliance Checks.

4

FUNDING/GRANTS

Coalitions may be able to provide funding for law enforcement-based prevention strategies, such as Roadside Safety Checks, Alcohol Compliance Checks, or Tobacco Compliance Checks, if local data indicates the need.

5

PARTNERSHIPS

Coalitions are a great source of partnerships because they represent multiple community sectors. Representation can include parents, youth, business, healthcare, religious or fraternal, youth-serving organizations, government, schools, media, civic or volunteer organizations, and other organizations that reduce youth substance use.

6

RESOURCE SHARING

Coalitions can share material and in-kind resources. For example, coalition members can be partners for events such as National Night Out Against Crime.

**Scan the QR Code for access
to the Illinois Prevention
Coalition Map.**



Law enforcement offers a unique and valuable perspective on substance use prevention. Because prevention coalitions strategize from multiple angles, they can bring broader perspectives to evidence-based strategies to address issues before they become law enforcement problems. Coalition membership creates positive collaboration in a community to prevent youth substance use, which benefits law enforcement and the community.