### Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

## Marysville Together Coalition

Marysville, WA

#### **Coalition Mission**

Marysville Together
Coalition is a community
partnership of caring,
involved members
committed and
empowered to promote
safety, diversity, and
awareness, and respond to
the needs of our
community so everyone
who lives in Marysville will
take responsibility for
working together towards
a safe and healthy
community.



#### **Coalition Coordinator**

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#### 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**

Marysville Together Coalition (MTC) is a grassroots community organization that has been a mainstay of Marysville for more than 25 years! While members and leadership have changed over times, as well as the issues they face, the Coalition remains committed to creating a safe and healthy community.

To fulfill that commitment, MTC regards community stakeholders as one of its greatest assets; this along with a focus on community collaboration, has allowed for the Coalition's long term sustainability and success over the past three decades. The Coalition's valued partnerships include Housing Authority of Snohomish County, Marysville Parks and Recreation, Marysville churches, United Way, Salvation Army, YMCA, and many more.

The strength of Marysville is its community spirit, stakeholders take pride in the small town feel of the community and its agriculture roots, and benefit from a strong coordination of resources between helping agencies.

Despite their strong sense of community, stakeholders believe Marysville lacks a community center, or "hub" and they indicate that the interstate freeway physically splits the community into two, and that it facilitates easy access to substances as they are transported along the I-5 corridor.

#### **About Our Community**

Marysville has historically been a farm-based community, but transformed over the past few decades into the second largest city in Snohomish County. Many residents work outside of the community at Microsoft, Boeing, and other nearby large regional employers. Total population grew from 10,328 people in 1990 to 63,269 in 2013. Using the Office of Superintendent of Public Schools data as a proxy indicator of race and ethnicity, 58% of residents identify as Caucasian, 19% as Hispanic or Latino, 10% as two or more races, 6% as American Indian, and the remainder identifying as Asian, Pacific Islander or African American. The community has also experienced a recent surge in growth through immigration, particularly from Russia and the Ukraine. The Tulalip Tribe is also located within city limits, boasting a growing population of 4,000 members, 2,500 of whom reside on the 22,000 acre Tulalip Indian Reservation. The median household income of the community is \$64,000 higher than Washington State at \$58,557, but lower than the Snohomish County median, at \$65,981.

Recent assessment by the Marysville Together Coalition reveals several areas of vulnerability to underage drinking and other substance use that cannot be dismissed as a product of chance. As a result, the Coalition is working with its partners to reduce:

- · low neighborhood attachment
- · low commitment to school
- perceived availability of alcohol
- · poor protective social skills
- · early initiation of drug use

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#### **About Prevention Programs in our Community**

The Coalition prevention efforts in Marysville are focused on locales of high risk, predominately within the boundary lines of Marysville Middle School (MMS) and its feeder elementary schools. MTC's participation in the CPWI has resulted in substantial benefit to the community, including funding for our Coordinator and school based staff, as well as funding for program implementation including:

- evidence based Guiding Good Choices parenting skill building curriculum and classes for parents
- local information dissemination and environmental strategies
- evidence based Life Skills Training for our middle school populations to build protective social skills
- · an innovative club program

#### **Other Contacts**

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#### **CPWI** is funded by



For more information about CPWI visit www.TheAthenaForum.org