

# Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative

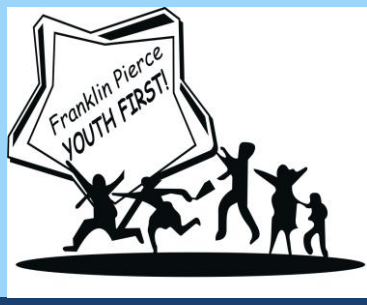
## *Partners for Healthy Communities*

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### Coalition Mission

The mission of Franklin Pierce YOUTH FIRST! is to mobilize community members and resources to support families and provide an environment in which youth will grow up emotionally and physically healthy, safe and alcohol and drug free.



### Coalition Coordinator

Sarah Bridgeford  
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Sarah has worked in social services and community development for 12 years focusing on building capacity in local communities and advocating for positive change for children. She has worked in the Franklin Pierce community since 2010.

## *Franklin Pierce Youth First! Tacoma, WA*

### 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. Our highest priority is to reduce underage drinking among 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students. By providing evidence-based practices and promoting the positive changes in communities, we can build healthier communities.

### About the Coalition: Communities and Schools Working Together

Franklin Pierce has high rates of mobility, poverty and other risks. Despite the challenges faced in the Franklin Pierce community, there are resources within the coalition with many service providers and the school district taking active and pivotal roles. Additionally, Pacific Lutheran University, Garfield Business Association and key businesses and groups are resources in creating further economic growth and opportunities for the community.

In 2001, Franklin Pierce Youth First grew from a few people with a commitment to prevention into an active change agent for the community. The partnership with the district and Youth First has been equally collaborative with services and programs such as Life Skills, Guiding Good Choices, after school programs including AmeriCorps teams and many others resulting from the partnership. FPFY has 12 Drug Free Communities (DFC) sector representatives as a DFC grantee in its sixth year.

Additional resources include several churches providing meeting space, volunteers, Kiwanis and Rotary; local libraries; and numerous social service providers.

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## Other Contacts

### Student Assistance Program Specialist

ESD Contact: Kim Beeson  
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### CPWI is funded by:



For more information about  
CPWI visit  
[http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/  
dapreventionservices.shtml](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/dapreventionservices.shtml)

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### About Our Community

The Franklin Pierce Youth First Coalition (Youth First) serves the geographic catchment area of the Franklin Pierce School District (FPSD), near Tacoma Washington. It is entirely in unincorporated Pierce County and encompasses the Parkland, Summit, and Midland communities. The area is a suburban community with no town center, no governing town council, no major industry, and a highly transient population. The community is rapidly changing.

Franklin Pierce schools are in a small district surrounded by four much larger districts. Each of the larger districts is supported by local municipalities, whereas Franklin Pierce is not. As of October 2013, 7,422 students were enrolled.

The poverty level, as reflected by the percentage of students who qualify for Free and Reduced-cost Lunch, is currently 72%, and has doubled since 1999. Our Hispanic/Latino community has more than doubled in the past seven years, increasing from 11% in 2006 to 24% in 2013. The white community decreased from 52% in 2006 to 39% in 2013. Diversity is a benefit and our strategies must continually evolve to meet the changes residents are experiencing.

The school district is the strongest advocate and supporter of youth and families, with mental health services, drug and alcohol treatment and community coalition efforts housed within school buildings. This is a passionate community that is building a culture of care and support in spite of multiple barriers.

### About Prevention Programs in our Community

#### Goals and Strategies

- Increase community connectedness and readiness
- Reduce youth substance abuse
- Increase family management skills
- Reduce perception of peer alcohol use Increase perception of harm
- Program Names/Who Will Be Served

Many programs and strategies are coalition and community based, striving to meet the cultural needs and engage all sectors in prevention.

#### **Youth Programs:**

Intervention Case Management  
Project SUCCESS  
Life Skills

#### **Parent Programs:**

Incredible Years  
Love and Logic  
Topic Specific Education

#### **Community Programs:**

Cultural Celebration and Fair  
Fun Run and Discovery Fair  
Networking Events  
School/Provider Collaboration