

# Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

## Coalition Mission

“The Northeast Support Team Coalition is working to create a community where families will be able to engage and create a safe and healthy environment through the power of prevention, education and intervention of substance abuse”

## Coalition Coordinator

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## Northeast Support Team Coalition Spokane, 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. 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

The Northeast Support Team (NEST Coalition) was established in 2018 and was awarded the grant from the CPWI through the Partnership for Success (PFS) Grant and the State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant. The NEST Coalition members are actively involved in meetings and events, and represent 12 sectors of our community. These sectors include the local school district, youth leadership, parents, local government, health care, youth serving organizations, faith-based organizations, local business, volunteer and civic organizations, other substance use serving organizations and law enforcement.

**Challenges:** An opportunity gap caused by poverty, poor housing, higher crime, and food insecurity contributes to an achievement gap in Northeast Spokane.

**Strengths:** Spokane Public Schools, The Zone Project, substance abuse organizations and community members are actively involved in the Northeast Support Team coalition; working to help address the challenges presented.

### About Our Community

The Hillyard/Northeast community is known for a proud, hardworking, people who historically relied on employment with the railroad: these employment opportunities have significantly been reduced.

The neighborhood has many dedicated and involved residents who volunteer most of their free time to a variety of organizations such as the Hillyard Neighborhood Council and Greater Northeast Business association, to name a few. These efforts have created exciting changes over the years including a reconstructed Market Street, new business opportunities, and neighborhood revitalization. It is this strong sense of community, built on history and involvement that attracts new residents to call Northeast home. People are proud of the historic homes, friendly

neighbors, and the casual atmosphere. Residents enjoy a host of community events and get together for clean-up activities, children play-dates, barbecues, and many other events. A variety of people live in Northeast including families, retirees, artists, immigrants, community-minded folks, visionaries, and professionals.

## About Prevention Programs in our Community

Using local and state data, the coalition identified priorities to reduce problems amongst youth by implementing evidence and research based practices which will address the specific needs of the Northeast Community. The following goals and strategies are being conducted by the NEST Coalition.

**Goal one:** Increase community connectedness and decrease community disconnectedness in Northeast Spokane. Strategies include: increasing coalition member capacity to plan, implement and evaluate positive community change as measured by a community survey and the coalition assessment tool.

**Goal two:** Increase perception of harm by providing a school-based substance abuse prevention and early intervention program delivered by the Student Assistant Specialist.

**Goal three:** Decrease youth access and availability to alcohol and drugs by information dissemination through Prescription Drug Take back events held every April 27<sup>th</sup> and October 27<sup>th</sup>. The coalition will also implement the “Starts with One Campaign”, through billboards, radio, TV, and other advertising strategies.

**Goal four:** Increase community laws and norms favorable to alcohol/drug use, firearms and crimes by reviewing school policies, and social practices favorable toward alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and providing information nights and trainings for parents and teachers regarding school policies.

**Goal five:** Decrease early initiation of problem behavior by reducing intentions to use by implementing SPORT Prevention Plus Wellness program. This program is multiple behavior program integrating substance abuse prevention and fitness promotion. The program will run from October-November with a goal of 15 students and will be measured by pre and post surveys.

**Goal six:** Increase opportunities for positive involvement in the family with families who may have a history of problem behavior with education strategies. The coalition will implement Strengthening Families Program for families of youth 10-14 years of age and Guiding Good choices. Both of these education programs are designed to enhance school success and reduce youth substance use with skills parents need to guide their children through early adolescence. Both these program will be measured by pre and post surveys.

CPWI is funded by

Washington State  
Health Care Authority

For more information  
about CPWI visit

[www.TheAthenaForum.org](http://www.TheAthenaForum.org)