

# Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

## Partners for Healthy Communities

### Coalition Mission

To create a framework of resources, support and partnerships to combat youth substance abuse in North Kitsap, providing a safe and healthy environment for all.

### Coalition Coordinator

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Bio: Deanne has over 25 years of experience in prevention, community outreach and youth services. Deanne has been trained in Community Mobilization and served on a variety of local boards and organizations. Deanne has strong ties to Kitsap County and has participated in developing and implementing two substance abuse prevention coalitions.

## North Kitsap Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

### Kitsap County, 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 North Kitsap Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition is a grassroots volunteer organization formed in November of 2013 for the purpose of mobilizing the community to prevent and reduce youth substance abuse. We work in partnership with representation from all parts of the community: youth, education, law enforcement, local government, healthcare, treatment, faith-based organizations, volunteer groups, youth organizations, parents, business, and the media to effectively support our children and youth to live substance free.

In the spring of 2013 our newly formed youth prevention club at Kingston High School, assisted by the CPWI Student Assistance Professional, conducted a successful student social norms prevention campaign.



## About Our Community

The North Kitsap School District is located on the north end of the Kitsap peninsula in western Washington State. We are directly west of Seattle across Puget Sound, surrounded by hundreds of miles of shoreline. The district covers approximately 110 square miles and serves the communities of Poulsbo, Kingston, Suquamish, Hansville, Indianola and Port Gamble. We are home to two sovereign nations, the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe and the Suquamish Tribe. In addition to the two Tribes, our coalition region includes unincorporated county, and one small city, Poulsbo, WA. Our community is home to a total of six law enforcement jurisdictions, which presents unique funding, regulatory and policy challenges. The population of North Kitsap is best represented by our county data. Its population is 83.9% White, 6.5% Hispanic or Latino, 0.08% African American, 3.3% Asian, and 2.2% American Indian, 3.8% Two or More and 0.22% Other.

The district serves about 5,700 students with six elementary schools, two middle schools, and two high schools. The percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunches is approximately 34%. The largest employer is the Federal defense agency which includes Naval Base Kitsap. It is the largest active shipyard in the nation and employs over 16,000 civilians and active duty military. Our coalition is concentrating efforts to provide a web of support to North Kitsap children, youth, parents, and the community as a whole. Our greatest challenges are the use of tobacco, marijuana and the increase in opiate use. Our greatest strength is our ability to work together effectively to solve community problems and fill gaps in services.

## About Prevention Programs in our Community

Our main goal is to decrease youth substance use. To accomplish this task we identified priorities. A community needs and resource assessment was completed and a plan developed to increase public awareness of substance use effects and strategies to support youth. Our program provides community-wide collaboration with the schools and provides school-based intervention and prevention services. We offer topic specific prevention education including strategies to recognize and prevent youth substance use.

## Other Contacts



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