

# Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

## Central Vancouver Coalition

### Central Vancouver



#### Coalition Mission

The Central Vancouver Coalition's mission is to reduce and prevent youth substance use by building an inclusive, resilient and connected community through awareness, education, and collaboration.

#### 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

The Central Vancouver Coalition was founded in 2018 to build a healthier community. The community became a part of the HCA Department of Behavioral Health and Recovery CPWI Cohort 6, based on community need and readiness. The fiscal agent for the grants is the Education Service District 112. A full-time Coalition Coordinator was hired to help support the planning process and implementation of the Strategic Plan. Additionally, a full-time Student Assistant Profession was hired to work at McLoughlin Middle School to implement the Project S.U.C.C.E.S.S program.

The Coalition will include representatives from Vancouver Public Schools, Vancouver Police Department, Clark County Public Health, chemical dependency professionals, youth, mental health professionals, parents, non-profits, youth serving organizations, the business sector, faith communities, and more. In addition to recruiting broad sector representation, the Coalition is also focused on building a coalition representative of the community being served. Central Vancouver is a diverse community with many cultures and languages and it's been a challenge to build membership reflecting this diversity. We seek to build this inclusion through a Coalition Recruitment Committee that will meet on an ongoing basis. We are also focused on building partnerships with existing service providers in the community to build positive relationships with residents.



## About Our Community

The geographical area of the Coalition reflects the school boundaries of Fort Vancouver High School. Described as an urban city, the total population is 153,658. The community within those boundaries is a community rooted with history and growing with diversity. Currently, about 77% of the population is White Non-Hispanic while 23% are categorized as any minority. The Latinx/Hispanic population is the largest minority group living within the boundaries followed by those identified as multiracial. The international district stretches through Central Vancouver with various multicultural businesses serving the members of the community with food from Thai cuisine and traditional Mexican food. Central Vancouver is rich in cultural that it has been described as “a hub for cultural events and festivals” by other organizations operating within the boundaries. Additionally, many renovations are also occurring with reconstruction of streets and buildings. This community is expected to continue to grow and develop for years to come.

## About Prevention Programs in our Community

Goals and strategies were selected based on local data and additional conditions identified by the Coalition and key informant sessions. The following represent the goals and strategies of the Coalition:

- Increase community organization in Central Vancouver through monthly community meetings, trainings, and collaboration with other local organizations
- Decrease youth access to opioids and other prescription drugs by participating in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day events and promoting the Starts with One Campaign
- Reduce community laws and norms that are favorable towards youth use of alcohol, vaping/e-cigarettes, opioids, and marijuana through School Policy Review and Revision
- Decrease favorable attitudes towards alcohol, vaping/e-cigarettes, opioids, and marijuana by implementing Project Success at McLoughlin Middle School
- Decrease family management problems through parenting and family education. The Strengthening Families Program for Parents and Youth (10-14) will be offered.
- Decrease early initiation of the problem behavior in Central Vancouver. The SPORT Prevention Plus Wellness will be offered at Fort Vancouver High School.

The Central Vancouver Coalition will evaluate strategies through community surveys, coalition assessments, Healthy Youth Survey, and program specific surveys.

## Other Contacts



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For more information  
about CPWI visit

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