

Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

Coalition Mission

To prevent and reduce substance use and other problem behaviors in Ellensburg School District students.

Coalition Coordinator

Diane Rossow



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Diane's experience includes partnership cultivation, team development, capacity building, data analysis, strategic planning, project implementation, and youth mentoring.

Ellensburg Healthy Youth Coalition Ellensburg

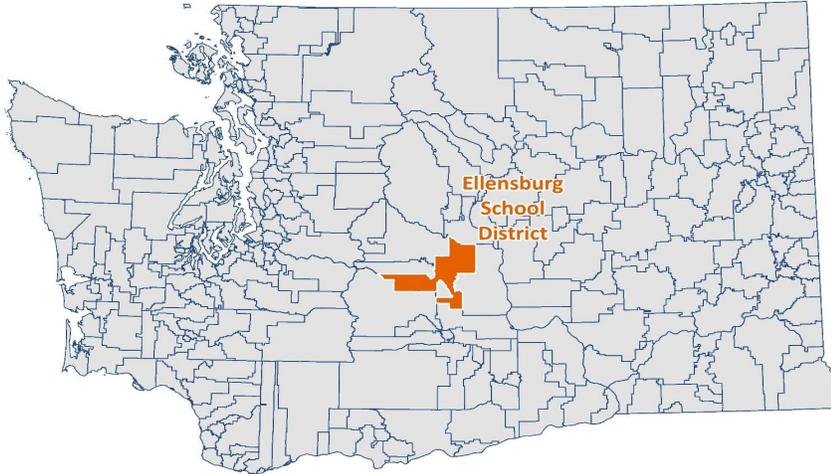


About the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI)

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 Ellensburg Healthy Youth Coalition was founded in 2018. Members represent business, criminal justice, faith-based, health care, higher education, law enforcement, media, mental health, parent, public health, public safety, secondary education, social service, substance abuse, volunteer, youth, and youth-serving sectors.



About Our Community

Compared to students in Washington State and Kittitas County, students in the Ellensburg School District (ESD) are more likely to experience good family management, family rewards for prosocial involvement, parental attitudes unfavorable toward drug use, and academic success. However, they are also more likely to use tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs; experience depression and suicide attempts and deaths; skip school; fight, carry guns/weapons, and be gang members; and be arrested for alcohol and drug law violations.

About Prevention Programs in our Community

Coalition goals include improving the social skills of ESD students, reducing their low commitment to school, and improving their community opportunities and rewards for prosocial involvement; reducing the availability of drugs in Ellensburg; and reducing the laws and norms in Ellensburg that are favorable to drug use. Coalition strategies include:

- Teaching the **Positive Action Program**: Promotes interest in learning, encourages cooperation, and reinforces positive behavior
- Developing **Personalized Education Plans**: Sets learning goals based on personal, academic, and career interests
- Providing **Career Mentoring**: Community-based, one-on-one mentoring through Youth Services of Kittitas County
- Promoting **Drug Take Back Day**: Disposal of unused or expired Rx drugs
- Promoting **Starts with One**: Educates about dangers of Rx drug misuse and importance of safe storage, use, and disposal
- Distributing **Medication Lock Boxes**: For safe storage of Rx drugs
- Advocating for a **1/10 of 1% Sales Tax**: To fund behavioral health services in Kittitas County

The Coalition will measure change in social competence/decision making skills, school connections, mentee quality of match, Rx drug disposal, Rx safe storage, and behavioral health workforce.

Other Contacts



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CPWI is funded by

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For more information
about CPWI visit

www.TheAthenaForum.org