

Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

Coalition Mission

To positively impact our youth's emotional well-being, prevent youth substance use, and increase awareness through education, wellness activities, and community collaboration.

Coalition Coordinator

Angie Rowley

509-671-0474

arowley@pendoreille.org

Angie has a BSN in Nursing from Otterbein University in Westerville, Ohio. She has a love of philanthropist and has traveled all over offering her services. This is her first official coordinating position. However, she has been training throughout her life with the help of her 4 children and husband.

Selkirk Wellness Coalition

Selkirk Community

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

Our coalition was established in December 2018 and is a CPWI Cohort 6.

Our prevention accomplishment at this early stage is awareness. We are making ourselves known to the community and building the capacity to reach our goals. We are educating community members through our coalition and teaching them about prevention science and the strategic prevention framework. They are learning how a coalition can be and effective model for change through key partnerships and collaboration.

Our partners include the Border Patrol officers, the Town Mayor of Metaline Falls, the school district Superintendent, the high school Principal, Teck company, community members, the sheriff, school nurse, Cutter Theater, youth from the high school, teachers from both high school and elementary, lone Baptist church, and parents.

A great strength of this community is unity. We are thankful that the community members were ready for the coalition and attendance at meetings has been impressive. Our coalition members have volunteered many hours of their time to support the coalition's mission and events. The community wants the youth to succeed and they understand that drugs and alcohol prevention is key to providing that.

The challenges of this community are in reaching the youth who are already immersed in the cycle of generational substance misuse at home. Parents are affected by the addicting vices and are more accepting of their child's choice to use drugs or alcohol at home.



About Our Community

Selkirk Community is in the northern most part of Pend Oreille County and borders our neighbors in BC, Canada. There is a small active border station who covers this area and a CPS station at the border. The Pend Oreille River runs through it and mountains, lakes, streams, waterfalls, and wildlife are everywhere. It is a picturesque location for outdoor recreation that draws tourists in from near and far. According to many residents of this county, the Selkirk area is considered, “God’s Country”. Selkirk consolidated school district includes the towns of Lone, Metaline, and Metaline Falls. Lone has 450 residents, Metaline has 172 residents, and Metaline Falls 242. The three towns are within 15 minutes of each other. The community enjoys the solidarity and keeping the world at an arms distance away. Mining is the predominant industry, unfortunately, the stability of this employment is bleak. The mine as of July 2019 is closed and on care and maintenance until otherwise stated.

Pend Oreille County is very rural with only one person per 9 square miles of land and the towns serving the Selkirk School district are the most remote from any large city and essential services. According to the OSPI data Selkirk School District serves 257 students 43% receiving free lunch and reduced lunch. The demographic breakdown includes 4% reporting they are Hispanic, 92% Caucasian, and 8% any minority.

About Prevention Programs in our Community

One specific goal is to decrease availability of opioids, alcohol and marijuana and increase the perception of harm to adolescents. Our strategies include the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Events, The Starts with One Campaign, Town Halls, Community Education, Outreach Events, The Artscape program, and Evidenced-Based programs such as Sport Prevention Plus Wellness, and Project Success. These programs also help with our goal to reduce favorable attitudes towards use. In order to increase family bonding and increase communication in families, we are offering free 5-week parenting workshops to parents and caregivers of children ages 9 -14. Parents will learn to guide their children away from substance use in this program called, “Guiding Good Choices.”

Other Contacts

Student Assistance Program
Specialist
NWESD 101
Alexa Stueckrath
Email:
astueckrath@esd101.net



County Contact

Annabelle Payne
509-447-5651
apayne@pendoreille.org

Prevention Program Manager

Carrie McKinley
509-447-6419
cmckinley@pendoreille.org

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For more information
about CPWI visit

www.TheAthenaForum.org