Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

Coalition Mission

The Reach Out Walla Walla Coalition's mission is to prevent use of alcohol and other drugs by our youth and promote mental wellness. This includes:

- 1) Serving as a forum that will promote collaboration among multiple sectors of the community.
- 2) Developing and/or adopting multiple prevention strategies to address the problem of youth substance use in the Walla Walla community.



Coalition Coordinator

Peggy Needham, CPP

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Peggy has worked in the prevention field for 25 years and became the Reach Out Walla Walla coordinator in 2014.

Reach Out Walla Walla

Walla Walla, 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

W2 for Drug Free Youth was founded in 2013 and is continuing to grow in the community of Walla Walla. In 2020, Members/partners voted to change the name of the coalition to Reach Out Walla Walla. Walla Walla Public Schools, City of Walla Walla Police Department, Walla Walla Area Crime Watch, Trilogy Recovery Community, Department of Community Health, Comprehensive Healthcare, and youth serving felt this name encompassed both substance use and mental health.

Reach Out Walla Walla partnered with local law enforcement, Walla Walla Area Crime Watch and Greater Columbia Accountable Communities of Health to co-host 2019 National Night Out in August. The focus of event was "Starts With One" the Opioid Prevention Program. Over 30 local agencies came together for the event. A total of 90 prescription lock boxes along 800 medication disposal packets were distributed.

One of the biggest strengths in Walla Walla is the cooperation and networking among all sectors of the community. We will come together to address the needs, challenges and successes in Walla Walla and continue to strive to be a safe and healthy community for all residents.

Some of the unique qualities of Walla Walla is three colleges and 150 wineries situated within our county.

About Our Community

- Walla Walla County was one of the first areas in the region between the Rockies and the Cascades to be permanently settled.
- Washington State's first constitution was ratified in Walla Walla County.
- The first bank in the State of Washington, Baker Boyer National Bank, established in Walla Walla in 1869, is still located at 2nd and Main Street in Walla Walla.



One of Walla Walla County's best-known agricultural products is the Walla Walla Sweet Onion developed specifically by Walla Walla growers. To be labeled a genuine Walla Walla Sweet, an onion must be grown within specific boundaries resulting a low sulfur content and high water content, thus providing its sweet flavor.

Within Walla Walla County are two of the world's largest farms. The Snake River Vineyard has the distinction of being the largest Concord grape vineyard and First Fruits is the largest apple orchard.

The City of Walla Walla has a population in of 32,900 with and estimated median household income of \$54,606. The ethnic diversity is 70.4% white, 22% Hispanic/Latino, 2.7% black, 1.4% Asian, 1.3 % American Indian/Alaska Native and 2.2% other.

About Prevention Programs in our Community

Goals and Strategies

- Increasing Coalition membership by engaging local community partners to ensure sector representation.
- Public awareness campaign to inform citizens of current substance abuse related issues in our community.
- Provide media campaigns such as SAMHSA "Talk. They Hear You" and "Starts with One" parents and community.
- · Town Hall Forum
- · National Night Out "Starts With One"
- Strengthening Families in English and Spanish
- Sources of Strength has been implemented in four high schools and one middle school with the receiving of mental health/suicide prevention dollars* (Not funded with CPWI dollars)
- · Communities in School case management model is used at the Health Center on Lincoln High School Campus.
- · Blue Devil Strong and Garrison Trooper Prevention Clubs

Other Contacts



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Washington State Health Care Authority

For more information about CPWI visit www.TheAthenaForum.org