

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Overview of Plan

**One Prevention Alliance Mission** - To increase the health and well being of the youth, parents and community of the Stevenson-Carson School District by reducing and preventing drug and alcohol use through education, intervention and outreach.

Skamania County, located in southwest Washington, was established in 1854, and is about 40 miles east of the Portland, Oregon metropolitan area. The Columbia River, which is also the boundary between Washington and Oregon, is the county's southern boundary. Over 86% of the county is within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and approximately 7% is within the National Scenic Area. The remaining small percentage of land is comprised of privately owned land, state and federal lands, and urban areas. People who live in Skamania County enjoy an abundance of recreational activities along with a rural lifestyle and a safe, small town feel.

Before Skamania County was settled, Native Americans lived off the abundant natural resources in this area for thousands of years (based on the cultural significance of the Columbia River Gorge, and the Columbia River specifically, there are many cultural sites throughout Skamania County that have been retained by 4 tribes, including 3 in-lieu sites that are used for fishing and residential purposes). For over a century, Skamania County was extremely wealthy due to the primary economic industry of logging and the abundance of natural resources. However, in the early to mid 1980s logging essentially ceased and the community lost its identity. There has been an economic transition from the logging industry to tourism, but the community still struggles to define itself. That identity struggle carries over into our youth population as they question their value in our society and whether their actions have any significant role in the community and in the world.

One Prevention Alliance defines its community as the Stevenson-Carson School District (within the central part of Skamania County). The school district serves a total population of 6,199. Approximately 78% of the population in the Stevenson-Carson School District is located within three major population areas: the City of Stevenson (pop. 1520), the City of North Bonneville (pop. 1000) and the Carson River Valley urban area (pop. 2279). Skamania County, as a whole, has a total population of 11,066 (2010 Census) with 92.8% being White, 5.0% being Hispanic or Latino, 0.4% being African American, 1.6% American Indian and Alaska Native (percentage jumps to 3.4% when combined with one or more races), 0.9% Asian and 0.1% Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander. Persons 19 or younger make up 24.5% of the population and persons 65 and over make up 14.5%. The population density is 6.73 per square mile. The median household income is \$48,704 and 9.4% of county residents were below the poverty line between 2006 and 2010.

Our community has seen two recent statewide voter initiatives passed in the last two years that will add significant challenges to our task of keeping our youth drug and alcohol free. One initiative has eliminated state run liquor stores, placing spirits in grocery stores for the first time, and the second legalized marijuana in Washington. Both changes are predicted to contribute to an increase in youth access to alcohol and marijuana, and could increase normalization of their use.

One Prevention Alliance Coalition believes that our youth have a significant role in our community and that we can continue our efforts in reducing youth substance use through education and prevention measures. Our

coalition plans to build on the positive outcomes from past efforts and move forward with an emphasis on alcohol and marijuana use prevention.

The funding provided by the PRI project will support the efforts to reduce underage drinking. The coalition's PRI action plan will work to reduce youth access to alcohol, increase consequences for underage drinking, and change community norms about underage drinking.

The One Prevention Alliance has not only focused on creating our Strategic Plan over the last 6 months, but also pulled together and wrote an application for a Drug Free Communities grant and submitted it to SAMSHA during March of 2013.