

Abstract Executive Summary

The mission

The Mission of the White Swan Arts & Recreation Coalition is to live out the vision by honoring the voices of the community and by being advocates for communication and education.

The need

Need in the community of White Swan is great, as evidenced by the Division of Behavioral Health and Recoveries 2011 ranking in the 99th percentile for need. Identified risks included early academic failure, academic failure, crime, prevalence of alcohol and substance abuse, mental health needs, troubled families, and extreme economic deprivation.

Based on the Healthy Youth Survey data White Swan High School and Mount Adams Middle School were selected to participate in the State Strategic Prevention Framework State Prevention Incentive Grant 2005. The 2004 Healthy Youth Survey showed eighth grade use in the Mt. Adams School district to be greater than 5% points above the state average for consumed alcohol within the past 30 days.

The White Swan Arts and Recreation group has been in existence since 2000. With the opportunity to specifically address youth underage drinking through the SPF-SIG the community coalition to reduce underage drinking was formed under the White Swan Arts and Recreation umbrella. Nancy Fiander- a lifelong resident of White Swan- school nurse, and longtime community organizer was named the first coalition chair/staff person. Over the past years change has occurred as measured by

1. The Healthy Youth Survey;
2. The number of community members participating in coalition meetings;
3. Leadership of the coalition;
4. Work groups and;
5. Formal and informal measures of coalition work and community change.

Over the years the coalition has grown and flourished in its membership. Dedicated folks show up monthly to take on the work. Each month members share a meal, talk strategy, and plan for the next activity. Through Mrs. Fiander's skilled work in 2010 the coalition was awarded a Drug Free Communities grant. This year (February 2012) the coalition received the Chairman's Award at the Community Anti- Drug Coalitions of America national conference.

The DBHR Prevention Redesign Initiative required counties to address the needs in the highest ranking community within each county. White Swan met that threshold and was well on its way to creating positive sustainable change.

Goals:

1. To decrease alcohol and marijuana use in youth residing within the boundaries of the Mt. Adams School District.
2. To decrease the number of youth that report they drove a car while drinking, or rode in a car with someone who had been drinking.
3. To increase school attendance.