

New Castle United for Youth

DFC Grant Year 3 Annual Report

December 2019

Year Three Goals

Increase Community Collaboration

- Increase Coalition Capacity by increasing prevention knowledge and skills of Coalition members
- Increase involvement of the youth sector
- Strengthen awareness of Coalition

Reduce Youth Substance Use

- Reduce availability of alcohol and other substances
- Change culture and context within which decisions are made about alcohol and other substances

Year Three Strategies Undertaken to Strengthen Capacity & Coalition Awareness

- Enhanced Coalition website
- Increased Coalition presence on Twitter and Instagram
- Participated in town wide community events
 - Summer Concerts
 - Community Day
 - Chappaqua Children's Book Festival
- Continued to attend monthly Westchester Coalition meetings
- Attended CADCA Leadership Conference and sent Coordinator to Youth to Youth Eastern States Conference
- Continued outreach to additional sector representatives including meeting with the Chappaqua Interfaith Council and Mountainside Treatment Center

Year Three Strategies Undertaken for Increased Youth Involvement

- Continued and revised summer youth internship program to have themes for each internship session, list of desired outcomes and opportunities for interns to present to Coalition members
- Increased number of returning summer interns and returning Youth to Youth summer leadership attendees
- Increased collaboration with Horace Greeley SADD Club
- Sent students to Westchester Youth to Youth meetings and other events
- Sent more students to Youth to Youth summer leadership conference and had one student accepted as Youth Staff member at conference
- Increased youth participation in planning and attending community wide events

Year Three Strategies Undertaken for Reducing Availability of Alcohol and Other Substances

- Funded overtime for New Castle Police to increase weekend patrols during times of potential high alcohol consumption
- Distributed email from Police Department and Chappaqua Volunteer Ambulance Corps about celebration safety
- Worked with Town representatives to consider implications of potential legalization of marijuana in New York State
- Mailed flyer about prescription drug disposal to all town residents

Year Three Strategies Undertaken for Changing Culture

- Co-sponsored youth volunteer fair to provide youth with opportunities for involvement which is a protective factor for alcohol and other drug use
- Partnered with SADD to bring motivational speaker early in school year
- Hosted parent programming and website and social media outreach for times of transition and increased risk of substance use
- Sponsored parent and student presentations about impact of marijuana use on academic performance
- Partnered with high school health teacher and Asst. Supt. for Curriculum and Instruction to bring consultant to revise middle and high school health curriculum to bring skills based teaching to health units

Year Three Strategies Undertaken for Awareness and Increasing Perception of Risk

- Brought “If You’re Impaired, You’re Not Really There” program to Community Day as a collaboration with our summer interns and New Castle Police Department
- Partnered with Northern Westchester Hospital to have a summer internship session focus on the risks of vaping and increasing awareness of those risks
- Hosted screening of “If They Had Known,” a movie about risky drinking behavior and misuse of prescription drugs, and partnered with CVAC to find additional screening opportunities
- Partnered with high school science department to host public health expert Dr. Amelia Arria to speak about the risks associated with marijuana use including its impact on academic performance
- Produced website blogs and Facebook, Twitter and InstaGram posts

Future Areas of Focus

- Continued evaluation of past and future data and strategies
- Physician outreach related to vaping
- Increased focus on enhancing skills for parents and youth
- Strengthen school year youth leadership program and create opportunities for middle school and high school youth to work together
- Identify speakers to educate community further about marijuana and binge drinking
- Update logic models for substances of concern
- Increase sector engagement and encourage opportunities for member generated strategy requests