

Community Prevention Best Practice Series

Roles and Responsibilities of a Prevention Coalition Member

CONTEXT

Individuals, families, and communities aspire to promote healthy development, healthy living, and good health outcomes. Misuse of alcohol, tobacco/nicotine, and other drugs – including prescription medication, produce a negative impact across all segments of a community including public health, public safety, education, and economic vitality. Community prevention coalitions represent a proven strategy for communities to address substance use in their communities. Coalitions often use the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) to reduce risk-taking behaviors, promote resilience, and prevent problem behaviors in individuals and families across the life span. The SPF helps communities create a data-driven road map to identify priority concerns and implement practical and proven solutions.

ROLE

The primary role of coalition members includes:

- Represent the voice and perspective of one of many diverse sectors that create the web of influence in the
 community including business, faith-based communities, public safety, the justice system, early childhood,
 education, health and behavioral health providers, youth, parents, coaches, youth serving organizations, public
 sector agencies, labor unions, and media partners, among others.
- Serve as a champion and ambassador of the Coalition and its community prevention strategies
- Create a productive, inclusive collaborative workspace for the Coalition
- Assist in mobilizing other partners, leaders, and participants in the SPF process
- Participate in the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the Coalition's prevention plan
- Support sustainability efforts by connecting coalition strategies to resources new or existing, as well as promoting policy and/or environmental changes that benefit your community
- Mentor new coalition members on Coalition strategy, policies, and practices

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and strengthen your working knowledge of the Strategic Prevention Framework process and evidence-based and evidence-informed prevention strategies.
- Attend approximately eight (8) full Coalition "business" meetings each year wherein Coalition partners review progress on the SPF (actual v. goal), problem solve, network, and celebrate success.
- Participate in committees or time-limited work groups or task forces necessary to advance the Coalition's SPF
 activities. This may include volunteering on coalition-sponsored or affiliated events and activities most relevant
 to advance the Coalition's priority strategies.
- Serve in Coalition leadership roles such as Coalition chair or a committee chair.
- Review documents and materials, and provide input into the Coalition's work products.
- Facilitate access to other community resources relevant to the Coalition's work such as access to leaders, priority populations, data sets, subject matter experts, or funding.
- Actively support the Coalition's efforts to coordinate and integrate its work to enhance other existing efforts in the community, or to fill gaps that match up with the Coalition's priorities and core competencies.
- Communicate information about the Coalition to your professional and personal networks.
- Contribute subject matter expertise from your community sector as well as knowledge, skills, or competencies that may cut across sectors such as training, data analysis, marketing and communications, strategic / operational planning, or continuous quality improvement.