

**NATIONAL
PREVENTION** *we* **EK**
A CELEBRATION OF POSSIBILITY

**MAY 10-16
2026**

Planning Tips and Ideas for National Prevention Week 2026

February 24, 2026

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Zoom Polls

1. NPW knowledge or experience
2. Types of NPW activities attended or facilitated



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About National Prevention Week

- By showcasing the work throughout the prevention field, we can confront the societal challenges surrounding substance misuse together while celebrating stories of prevention.
- The National Prevention Week tagline, “**A Celebration of Possibility,**” is about communities coming together to celebrate the possibilities and brighter futures that exist thanks to the ongoing work of prevention happening across the country.



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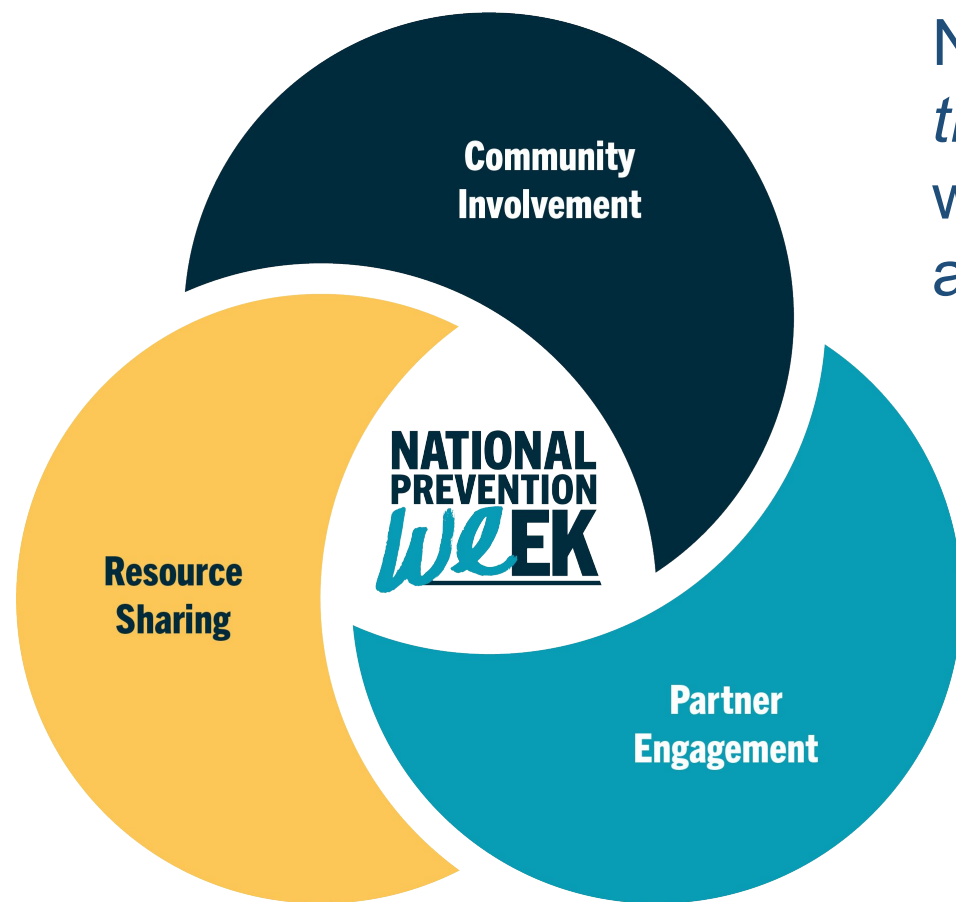
Learning Objectives

- Identify the goals of National Prevention Week, **May 11 – 17, 2026**
- Explore past NPW activities that coalitions can adopt
- Identify current or past local prevention initiatives that can be promoted or celebrated during NPW
- Explore new opportunities and engage community sectors into local NPW prevention programming



NPW Purpose

National Prevention Week promotes *the world we want to see* — where prevention helps keep people and communities healthy and safe.



- **Raise** community awareness about substance misuse prevention and mental health promotion
- **Engage** and celebrate community partners in prevention
- **Share** evidence-based prevention strategies and resources

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National and Statewide NPW Collaboration Opportunities



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SAMHSA NPW website

- [NPW video to share with coalition or LPC](#)

NPW Toolkit

- Plan your event
- Promote your event including
 1. [Event planning checklist](#)
 2. [Keep the momentum after your event](#)

Digital toolkit



#MyPreventionStory

SAMHSA initiative to personalize prevention with our stories.

Promote and celebrate LPC or coalition and members:

- Coalition members explain why they volunteer
- Highlight youth members
- Celebrate a prevention event or initiative



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SAVE THE DATE
MAY 7-13 2023

LYME-OLD LYME
PREVENTION COALITION

Our Prevention Heroes
Alli Behnke, Prevention Coordinator

lysb Lymes' Youth Service Bureau
> EMPOWERING YOUTH FOR A BETTER FUTURE

#MyPreventionStory

I am here to support ALL youth and families as they create their own prevention journeys- I LOVE working with kids and partnering with them to create positive community change. enhance positive life skills, and reduce youth substance use!

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Zoom Poll

Prior to this training, have you considered any of the following NPW activities or events?



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CT Clearinghouse NPW site

- [CT Prevention Week Facebook page](#)
- [CT NPW 2026 Community Events Form](#)
- [Stella starfish logos, social media graphics, coloring book and word game puzzles](#)
- [Stella NPW shareable images](#)
- [CT statewide prevention campaigns](#)



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CT NPW local events form

CT Clearinghouse has created a local events form

1. To promote local NPW events
2. To create an inventory of local NPW events to share with others

Be sure to share your event with your local Regional Behavioral Health Action Organization (RBHAO)



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NPW is a great time to...

- Celebrate (and brag) about local prevention initiatives
- Promote your LPC or coalition
- Recognize coalition or LPC leaders, members, youth
- Recognize and thank coalition partner organizations
- Have a prevention party! – Eat cake
- Use the NPW logo on already scheduled prevention activity, event or social media posts for the month of May



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CT Local NPW Initiatives

- Local community NPW proclamation
- Wellness or health resource fairs
- Family fun days combined with resource fairs
- Library partnerships featuring prevention books, booklists, and book club
- Prevention speakers at schools or community events
- Youth present local survey data to local policy makers
- Youth summits with trained youth lead discussions
- Youth walk for prevention
- Social media posts with local data, updated information and resources



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Sample Themes

- Substance misuse prevention
 - Alcohol and underage drinking
 - Cannabis
 - Nicotine – tobacco, vaping
 - Prescription drugs
 - Opioids and illicit drugs
- Opioid overdose prevention
- Promoting Mental Health and Wellness
- Suicide Prevention
- Enhancing the Prevention Workforce
- Highlighting Prevention Efforts in Your Community
- Celebrating Prevention Heroes in Your Community



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Library Partnerships

CT NPW Library Tool-Kit

Prevention activities

- Display table of related books
- List of related books
- Bookmarks with coalition information, survey data, resources
- Include LPC or coalition information

Benefits

- Engage a new community partner organization
- Connect with new people that may reach during traditional prevention activities
- Assist Library with reframing their resources as prevention resources



CT NPW Resources



CT Clearinghouse NPW Resources

<https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/npw/>

CT Prevention Week Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/CTPreventionWeek>

Make sure to use the hashtags:

- #preventionhappenshereCT
- #CTPreventionWeek
- #ctprevents

National SAMHSA NPW Resources

<https://www.samhsa.gov/prevention-week>

<https://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/communitiestalk/>



Small Group Discussion



Everyone will be assigned to breakout rooms to share ideas as well as an opportunity to explore future collaborations.

Once in breakout rooms, look at your May calendar and consider:

- What are the May coalition activities that are already planned?
- If nothing is planned in May, can this be an opportunity to engage existing partners and invite new ones? (ex. A community wide health fair, block party, survey results forum, training for coalition members)
- Are there other community celebrations you can incorporate a prevention message into? (ex. prom, Mother's Day, those returning from college)
- After hearing other NPW ideas, are there any you would like to incorporate?



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Zoom Poll

2026 potential NPW plans



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Key Takeaways

There are resources, support, and funds to support NPW activities.

Participating in National Prevention Week will allow you to:

- ***Enhance coalition capacity*** by building on existing relationships and engaging potential new coalition members.
- ***Raise the coalition's presence*** within the greater community.
- ***Utilize existing events*** to discuss the importance of prevention during the late spring/summer months.



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