

Court Diversion/TASP and Substance Abuse Prevention Coalitions Collaboration - Notes from session Strategic Prevention Framework Training - May 12, 2009

Expectations of TASP from participants

- Statewide data collection on effectiveness using pre/post test
- Piloting ideas and evaluating to determine effectiveness then mandating use statewide
- Share successes
- Clarity about what TASP is and what it does in the community - publicize the effectiveness; a lot of people think it doesn't work and there are a lot of repeat offenders, so LEO don't use it
- All programs should do/provide/require an educational component (with reflective component) including brain development, impact of alcohol on the body, amount of alcohol and its impact, etc.
- Educational component including prevention information and refusal skill building required for all
- Consistent education with follow up
- An educational component should be required of all TASP and Diversion participants regardless of the assessment results.
- Education/impact on adolescent brain development
- Coalitions provide connections for participants to get them into relevant education/self-reflective programs
- Use of community resources
- Follow best practice screening for substance abuse
- Best practices consistently adopted by all TASP programs within demographic possibilities
- Provide purposeful programs that impact the youth enough to make healthy choices in the future
- Expectation that the "offender" not be "branded," i.e. should be treated as juvenile
- Parental involvement
- Coalition involvement in standards review and improvement plans
- Nationwide review of sanctions elements
- Create a standard requiring community service; include service learning or community service for participant that draws on their strengths and connects them in a meaningful way to their community

Collaboration Examples

- Court Diversion program serves as fiscal agent for SPF grant (Addison)
- Court Diversion/TASP staff & volunteers participate as members of coalitions
- Court Diversion/TASP program serves as fiscal agent and/or coordinator for START program (Lamoille, Orange, Washington)
- Court Diversion/TASP staff participated in social norms marketing training
- Court Diversion/TASP staff as speaker at coalition meeting
- Coalitions share information and successes about Court Diversion/TASP with its members and larger community
- Coalition provides training for review board members and agency trustees on alcohol and substance abuse, local data, brain development

Collaboration Ideas

- All the coalitions in one county jointly invite Court Diversion/TASP and substance abuse treatment providers to a meeting
- Joint planning around parent involvement - incentives for adult participation such as reduction in community service requirement; standard resource for parents on community resources and information
- Coalition might share resources (financial support) to help Court Diversion/TASP develop (pilot?) education program
- Joint meetings and/or training for Coalitions and Court Diversion/TASP

