

Partnerships for Success Program in New Hampshire

Overview of the Partnerships for Success (PFS) Program

The Strategic Prevention Framework - Partnerships for Success (SPF-PFS) grant program is administered by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) within the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The SPF-PFS grant program is intended to prevent the onset and reduce the progression of substance misuse and its related problems while strengthening prevention capacity and infrastructure at the State, tribal, and community levels.

The purpose of the grant program is to address two of the nation's top substance abuse prevention priorities: 1) underage drinking among youth between the ages of 12 and 20; and 2) prescription drug misuse among individuals between the ages of 12 and 25. Grantees may also use grant funds to target an additional, data-driven substance abuse prevention priority (e.g. marijuana, heroin, etc.) in their State/tribe.

PFS is based on the premise that changes at the community level will lead to measurable changes at the State level. Through collaboration, States/tribes and their PFS-funded communities of high need can overcome challenges associated with substance misuse. PFS programs also aim to bring SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) to a national scale, giving grant recipients the chance to acquire more resources to implement the SPF.

SPF-PFS in New Hampshire

Who is involved in the grant program?

The New Hampshire Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services is the recipient of the SPF-PFS in the State.

Other State agencies that are represented on the State Epidemiological Outcome Workgroup (SEOW) to help with identification of high-need communities, data collection, and reporting activities include:

- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Justice
- Department of Corrections
- Division of Children, Youth, and Families
- Office of Minority Health and Refugee Affairs
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
- University of New Hampshire

How long is the grant program?

New Hampshire currently has a PFS 2015 award that will end on September 30, 2020.

How much funding does New Hampshire receive?

The PFS 2015 award is \$2,472,608 annually, or \$12,363,040 for the life of the award (5 years). This represents approximately 50% of the State agency's total annual substance abuse prevention budget.

Focus of New Hampshire's SPF-PFS program:

The current PFS 2015 award has two priority areas:

- 1) preventing and reducing underage drinking, and
- 2) preventing and reducing prescription and illicit opioid use.

New Hampshire analyzed its most recent needs assessment, which identified a critical gap in direct prevention services across the State. In turn, the State is supporting community-based providers—such as local youth-serving organizations, middle schools, and high schools—to implement prevention services.

Outcomes of SPF-PFS:

Student Assistance Programs (SAP):

- 8,635 individuals participated in the SAP offered in 12 middle schools and high schools and 1 community college.
 - 1,119 individuals participated in individual or group counseling services; 3,999 individuals participated in prevention education in a classroom setting; and 2,878 parents participated in parent prevention programs.
- Schools participated in an annual survey in the spring of 2017 and that data is currently being analyzed.
 - The survey will provide perceived risk, past thirty-day use and other data.

Young Adults as a primary targeted population:

- NH conducted an innovative statewide Young Adults Assessment in the collection of qualitative and quantitative data for this high-risk population
- The project assessed young adults' (aged 18-25) risk behaviors, perceptions, and attitudes as they related to binge drinking, prescription drug misuse, and illicit opioid (heroin) use.
- The study ran from October 2015 to December 2015 with participation from the 13 Regional Public Health Networks (RPHNs), which conducted 57 focus groups of 366 young adults. The project also used geo-targeted Facebook ads to reach New Hampshire residents in its age range, and conducted an online survey of more than 4,330 participants.
- The assessment identified opioid misuse and binge drinking prevalence among 18–20, 21–25, and 26–30-year-old individuals to define baseline numbers and to use for evaluation of future program implementation.
- The assessment informed new efforts that began in July 2017 in which the Regional Public Health Networks are implementing a variety of evidence-informed prevention strategies targeting young adults.
- A summary of the assessment report can be found at:
<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/bdas/documents/young-adults-execsum.pdf>

Please contact the Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services (BDAS) at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services for further information about the New Hampshire SPF-PFS initiative.

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