Partnerships for Success Program in Wisconsin

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 Wisconsin
Who is involved in the grant program?
The Wisconsin Department of Health 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: Wisconsin Department of Health Services’ (DHS) Division of Care and Treatment Services, DHS Division of Public Health, Department of Safety and Professional Services, University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, and the Wisconsin Department of Justice.

How long is the grant program?
Wisconsin had a Partnerships for Success grant beginning in 2013 and ending in 2015, with a no cost extension in FY 2016.

How much funding does Wisconsin receive?
Wisconsin received $1,254,528 per year from PFS, totaling $3,763,584 for the 3-year grant cycle. The PFS grant represented 18% of the State’s substance abuse prevention budget.

Focus of Wisconsin’s SPF-PFS program:
The PFS program focused on reducing non-medical/unauthorized availability of and access to prescription drugs among 12-25 year olds within sub-grantee geographic areas. Funds were focused towards 8 high-need counties and one high-need tribe in the state. Seven of these nine jurisdictions worked with or directly funded coalitions to support community-based work. One of the counties that did not directly fund a coalition did not have an active substance abuse coalition at the time of the grant. They have since formed a coalition and that community coalition is now being funded by the PFS grant.
Outcomes of SPF-PFS:

- 100% of communities customized brochures for their communities with information on how to dispose of medications.
- 91% of communities educated school nurses on disposal options for medications left at the end of the school year.
- 64% of communities provided education to medical and allied health professionals regarding substance abuse disorders and addiction.
- 82% of communities were successful in recruiting pharmacies to promote take-back events and prescription drug drop boxes.
- 82% of communities developed resource packets for educators and education-related personnel.
- 73% of communities discussed security and protection with all of their local pharmacies.
- 73% of communities conducted educational presentations to parents about prescription drug misuse prevention.
- A reduction of 1.5 drug-related suspensions per 1,000 students occurred in PFS-funded counties from the 2011-2012 school year to the 2014-2015 school year.
- From 2011 to 2014, PFS counties saw a 14% decrease in the drug arrests rate.
- 22% decrease in drug-related motor vehicle fatalities in PFS-funded counties, while the rate in non-PFS-funded communities remained steady.
- 22% decrease in drug-related motor vehicle injuries in PFS-funded counties, while the rate in non-PFS-funded counties increased by 7%.

For further information about the SPF-PFS in Wisconsin, contact the State Director:

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