



Coalition Meeting Agenda | March 1st, 2024 @ 12:30pm
Edgewater Public Library & bit.ly/Bridges-Coalition-Meeting

South County Bridges to a Drug-Free Community is one of four prevention coalitions dedicated to reducing substance misuse within Anne Arundel County. We are parents, students, teachers, police, healthcare providers & many others who are committed to changing the culture of drug and alcohol use among youth & young adults.

Welcome & Introductions - Leslie Beers, Coalition Coordinator; Jessica Bryan, Serenity Sistas; Linda Buchannan, Deale Elks Lodge; **Total Attendance= 3**

National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week is 3/11-3/14

→ **Activity: Let's Talk About Data - Test Your Knowledge!**

- **Sources:** [Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey/Youth Tobacco Survey](#) (YRBS/YRTS) 2021-2022 (data specific to Anne Arundel County); U.S. Surgeon General Advisory, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
- **Color Code:** **Answer;** 9th grade; 10th grade; 11th grade; 12th grade

TOPIC #1 - Youth & Mental Health

1. What percentage of high school students reported feeling sad or hopeless almost every day for 2 or more weeks in the past 12 months? → **37.5%**
 - a. What grade had the highest percentage? **12th - 43.1%**
 - i. **10th - 39.2%; 11th - 34.4%; 9th - 33.8%**
2. What percentage of high school students seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months? → **19.7%**
 - a. What grade had the highest percentage? **10th - 21.6%**
 - i. **11th - 20.3%; 9th - 19.2%; 12th - 17.0%**
3. What percentage of high school students actually attempted suicide 1 or more times in the past 12 months? → **16.0%**
 - a. What grade had the highest percentage? **9th - 17.0%**
 - i. **10th - 16.0%; 12th - 15.8%; 11th - 14.7%**

TOPIC #2 - Youth & Nicotine: Tobacco vs. Vapes

4. What percentage of high school students currently smoked cigarettes at least 1 day in the past 30 days? → **4.0%**



- a. What percentage of high school students report smoking cigarettes frequently (20 or more days in the past 30 days)? → **0.7%**
5. What percentage of high school students have ever used an electronic vapor product? → **35.2%**
 - a. What grade had the highest percentage? **12th - 48.9%**
 - i. **11th - 38.9%**; **10th - 35.0%**; **9th - 20.5%**
6. What percentage of high school students use a flavoring other than tobacco in their electronic vape device? → **93.9%**
 - a. **9th - 96.2%**; **10th - 96.6%**; **11th - 89.7%**; **12th - 95.7%**
 - b. A few examples of flavor names: Cotton Candy, Kool-Aid, Sweet Tarts, Gummy Bear, Hawaiian Punch, Rocket Pop, Froot Loops, Skittlez, Churrios, Kryptonite, Papa Smurf, Unicorns

TOPIC #3 - Youth & Alcohol

7. What percentage of high school students reported drinking alcohol on at least 1 occasion in the past 30 days? → **21.3%**
 - a. **9th - 8.1%**; **10th - 19.5%**; **11th - 25.6%**; **12th - 34.8%**
 - b. What percentage of high school students reported binge drinking on at least 1 occasion in the past 30 days? → **12.0%**
 - i. **9th - 3.8%**; **10th - 8.2%**; **11th - 17.5%**; **12th - 20.4%**
8. What percentage of high school students report drinking alcohol or using drugs prior to engaging in sexual activity? → **19.8%** (**12th - 27.5%**)

TOPIC #4 - Youth & Social Media

9. What percentage of high school students report spending more than 3 hours per day in front of a screen (not including school-related activities)? → **75.8%**
 - a. **May 23, 2023 - U.S. Surgeon General issued an Advisory on Social Media & Youth Mental Health:** Recent research shows that adolescents that spend more than 3 hours per day on social media face **double the risk of experiencing poor mental health outcomes**, such as symptoms of anxiety and depression.



10. What percentage of adolescents aged 13-17 report social media having a negative impact on their body image? → **46.0%**
- 40%** report social media makes them feel neither better nor worse about their body image
 - 14%** report social media makes them feel better about their body image
 - 64%** of adolescents are often exposed to hate-based content on social media

Brainstorm Bowl - Share your thoughts! We will have the bowl at each monthly meeting for attendees to (anonymously) submit suggestions/feedback.

- What subjects or topics would you like to see us talk about? What activities or training opportunities do you think would interest the community? Ideas for a guest speaker?

Upcoming Events:

- **March 2nd TIPS Training @ Deale Elks Lodge**
- **March 9th Narcan Training @ Club164, Annapolis**
- **March 14th & 15th House of Addictions @ Marley Station Mall 10am-4pm**
Students "In-School" Field Trip
 - ◆ **March 15th HoA Community Event 5:30-8pm @ Marley Station Mall**
- **March 16th Hippity Hop with a Cop @ AAPD Southern District 2-4pm**
- **March 18th-March 23rd National Drug & Alcohol Facts Week (NDAFW)**
- **Healthy Anne Arundel Hub Events - South County April 5th 9am-12pm @ Senior Center (next to library)**

Listening Sessions

- We are in need of groups of people (adults & youth) to conduct listening sessions (focus groups) as part of our community needs assessment. This is a critical strategy used to collect anonymous data. Please share the flyers anywhere you are able. Contact Leslie if you have a group or volunteers that may be interested soco@prevents substancemisuse.org

Group Announcements

Next Coalition Meeting – Friday April 5th 12:30pm

