Prevention

• Pre means before
• Vent means come
• Actions taken to promote health and reduce need for special care
  – Health care
  – Mental health care
  – Corrections
  – Remedial education
How many of you are trying to prevent substance abuse?
How many of you want to do it alone?
How many feel you can be effective alone?
So we not only need to come before, we also need to come together before to be stronger and more effective.
We will be talking about coalitions today.

A coalition is an alliance for combined action toward a common goal.
CADCA defines a coalition as a formal arrangement for collaboration among groups or sectors of a community, in which each group retains its identity but all agree to work together toward the common goal of a safe, healthy and drug-free community.
Sectors of the Community

- Youth
- Parents
- Business Community
- Media
- Schools
- Youth-serving Organizations
- Law enforcement agencies
- Religious or fraternal organizations
- Civic and volunteer organizations
- Healthcare professionals
- State, local or tribal agencies w/expertise in field of substance abuse
- Other organizations involved in reducing substance abuse
A Coalition is NOT: A traditional human service organization
A prevention program:

- Measures change in individuals it directly affects with an intervention
- Frequently focuses on a single strategy, such as parent education or peer mentoring
- Has staff lead the process and be responsible for implementing interventions
A Coalition:

- Measures success with community-level indicators—short and long term outcomes
- Addresses multiple identified causes
- Has members responsible for activities and staff in a supporting role.
How many think that sounds like a better idea than trying to prevent substance abuse alone?
Goals for the Day

• **Sharing Strength**
  – Sharing Knowledge
  – Sharing Resources
  – Sharing Support
  – Coalition Registry

• **Building Networks**
  – For Information
    • Contact Lists
    • Opportunities
  – For Collaboration
  – For Strength
    • Speak with One Voice
    • Change the Norms
AGENDA

• Delaware Speakers
• Federal Speakers
• Break
• Highlights from the Field
• Data—What We Start With
• Workgroups (with lunch)
  – Drug Free Communities Support Program
  – Coalition Workshop
  – State and Community-based Agencies Workshop