How We Used Data to Inform the Selection of Delaware’s Prevention Priorities

Presentation by the Evaluation Team from the Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies to the Delaware Advisory Council for the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant July 8, 2011, Buena Vista Conference Center

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Today’s Goals

- Review the role of Delaware’s State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup – DDATA
- Look at Delaware’s 3 Prevention Priorities
  - Highlighting the SPF-SIG Focus on Alcohol Abuse
  - Some Recent Data Supporting State Priorities
Developing Role of DDATA, Delaware’s state epidemiological outcome workgroup

1. Before SPF-SIG: 2007-2009, Brought key data stakeholders together to meet on a regular basis and created initial State Profiles

2. 2008, Used the Data in Getting the SPF-SIG

3. 2009-2010: Informed the SPF-SIG Strategic Plan with DAC and the State Strategic Plan (with DEPAC)

4. Ongoing Role in Surveillance, Evaluating Change, and Promoting use of Data-Driven decision making by the SPF-SIG and DEPAC
Active DDATA Member Organizations

- Delaware Department of Health and Social Services
  - Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health
  - Division of Social Services
  - Division of Services for Aging & Adults with Disabilities
  - Division of Public Health

- Delaware Department of Services for Children, Youth and Families
  - Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services

- Delaware Department of Education
- Delaware State Police
- Office of Highway Safety
- Delaware Council on Gambling Problems
- Criminal Justice Council and Statistical Analysis Center
- Nemours Health and Prevention Services
- University of Delaware Center for Drug and Alcohol Studies
- Delaware Department of Correction
- US Drug Enforcement Administration
- Delaware National Guard
- United Way of Delaware
DDATA Provides Needs Assessment for Delaware’s Prevention Planning (SPF-SIG, Block Grant, other State Initiatives)

- Prioritizing Problems through Analysis of Prevalence, Trend and Comparison data
- Identifying Resources and Gaps
- Tracking Consumption, Consequences, and Context
- Making Information Accessible to Federal, State, and Community Stakeholders
Criteria Used by DDATA to Set Prevention Priorities:

Data are available at the sub state and ideally the community level;

Data will be available on a regular basis in the future; and

The substance poses an important problem in terms of:

- Magnitude of the problem, severity, national comparisons, and trends.
Delaware’s 3 Prevention Priorities:

1. Alcohol abuse by underage youth and young adults;
2. Marijuana use for youth and young adults; and
3. Prescription Opiates and Heroin abuse across the life course.
Context (risk and protective factors)

Focus of Prevention & Intervention Activities: policy, enforcement, parenting, school & neighborhood environments

Consumption (the problem)

Priority Substances: Alcohol, Marijuana, Prescription Drugs, Heroin

Consequences (the red flag)

Deaths, Social Services, Justice/Corrections, Educational Remediation, Treatment: Medical, Mental Health, Substance Abuse

Things we need to change.

Changing the Context will change Consumption.

Changing Consumption will reduce Consequences!
Briefly look at some illustrative data related to each Priority and mostly to *Consumption* and *Consequences*.

Prevention Efforts we will hear about from our Grantees are going to be looking at the *Context* for change.
Long-term Trends in Past Month Alcohol Use for Delaware 5th, 8th, and 11th Graders 1989-2010

Consumption – drinking declined some but still by far most abused drug
Binge Drinking, Delaware 8th, 11th, & College

Consumption – binge drinking high and most who drink, binge drink

- 74% of drinkers
- 62% of drinkers
- 50% of drinkers
In 2010 27% of Delaware 11th Graders Meet the Criteria for Alcohol Dependence and/or Abuse:

25% Abuse only; and
2% Abuse and Dependence

Consequence – many youth meet clinical criterion for abuse but are not yet dependent
Costs of Underage Drinking in Delaware
= $228 Million Annually

Medical = $20,000,000
Work Lost = $51,000,000
Pain & Suffering = $158,000,000

Consequence – cost much greater than tax and sale revenue

NIAAA 2007
Delaware students start drinking earlier, which makes them more likely to suffer consequences

- 25% of Delaware high school students used alcohol before age 13 (9th out of 39 states)
- 10% of Delaware high school students used marijuana before age 13 (10th out of 39 states)
Long-term Trends in Past Month Marijuana Use for Delaware 5th, 8th, and 11th Graders

Consumption – Increase in past 2 years
Adult Alcohol and Heroin Treatment Admissions are Highest, but Marijuana and Other Opiates’ are Rising Rapidly

% Increase since 1996: Alcohol -23%  Heroin +20%  Cocaine -33%  Marijuana +352%  Other Opiates +4416%
Drug and Alcohol Deaths in Delaware by Type 2001-2005

Consequence – Alcohol and narcotics are #1 and #2 in drug-related deaths

- Alcohol: 45%
- Heroin, other opiates, methadone, other synthetic narcotics, other narcotics: 15%
- Cocaine: 25%
- Other Psychotropic drugs: 9%
- Other Drugs: 6%
Young Adult Prevalence

- 18-25 year olds are highest for past month alcohol use—65% and binge drinking 45%
- 18-25 year olds are highest for past month marijuana use – 19%
- 18-25 year olds are highest for other illicit drugs use – 8%
- 18-25 year olds are highest for non-medical pain reliever use – 12%
- All of the above are higher than national norms
Conclusion

- Data on consumption and consequences support the priorities of alcohol, marijuana and heroin and other opiates; and
- Use is highest among young adults, while dependence, deaths and treatment need are highest among middle adults, so the logical, data-supported target for prevention is youth and young adults.
Delaware Resources

Delaware Drug and Alcohol Tracking Alliance Website
www.udel.edu/delawaredata
*Epidemiological Profiles for State and Substate areas
*Lists and Maps of Community organizations and Resources
*Reports from the Delaware School Surveys dating back to 1989
*Minutes and reports from DDATA meetings
*Links to other state resources

State of Delaware Prevention Services Website
www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dsamh/prevention.html
*Delaware SPF-SIG website and links
*Delaware Substance Abuse Block Grant
*Other Prevention Services

Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services
Federal Resources

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
www.cadca.org

Results (including Delaware specific numbers) from the National Household Survey on Drug Use and Health
http://oas.samhsa.gov/nsduhlatest.htm

National Institute on Drug Abuse
www.nida.nih.gov

Partnership for a Drug-Free America
www.drugfree.org

Students Against Destructive Decisions, Inc.
www.sadd.org

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
www.samhsa.gov