



Ounce of Prevention Newsletter

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Message to Coalition Members:



To all of our Coalition Members and Newsletter Subscribers, please have a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

COALITION WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE

Don't forget to visit our Website and our Facebook Page and invite your friends to view and like our page as well.

www.steubenpreventioncoalition.org

Steuben Prevention Coalition

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We are asking all Coalition Members and Community Partners to let us know of any upcoming events, activities, public meetings, etc. that are or will be happening in your communities. Please contact us at the information provided.

colleen.banik@dor.org

Opioid Committee holds National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

Prescription Drug Take Back Day is a safe, convenient and a responsible way to dispose of unused, unwanted, and expired medications at designated locations throughout the country.

Here in Steuben County, the Sheriff's Department and the Steuben Prevention Coalition Opioid Committee collected 783.1 pounds of prescription medications across Steuben County for incineration by the DEA in Rochester.



A huge thank you goes out to Sheriff Jim Allard, Deputies Hawk and Butler as well as our volunteers during the event – Brandon Beuter, Amanda Chafee, Carla Chace and Connie Terry, Program Assistant for the SPC Opioid Committee.



Please be safe with your prescription medication disposal. Contact us if you need further information.

Steuben Prevention Coalition to begin Round 5 of the Pizza Box Prevention Messaging Project

The Coalition, along with many volunteers and the cooperation of local pizzerias across Steuben County, will begin Round 5 of the Pizza Box Prevention Messaging Project for 2021. Our message this round is "Whether it's alcohol or marijuana, remember: If they can't buy it, then don't supply it!" Should you see our messaging at your local pizzeria, please thank the owners for their participation.



2021 Prevention Needs Assessment Survey to begin across Steuben County

The Steuben Prevention Coalition will be administering the 2021 Prevention Needs Assessment Survey in Steuben County and we are happy to announce that we have a 100% participation rate in all the school districts during November 1st through November 12th, 2021. Congratulations and Thank You's go out to our School Districts for their commitment to participate.

This survey is designed to measure the need for prevention services among youth in the areas of substance abuse, delinquency, risky and antisocial behavior, violence, mental health, eating disorders and sexuality.



The benefits to the school districts and communities in Steuben County are numerous by participating in the Prevention Needs Assessment. Several school districts have been awarded grants over the past several years using the student data to help address our student needs. School districts across our state and the nation have seen reductions in problem behaviors after using the survey results to better target the needs of the students.

The information the students provide can help us all take steps to reduce and prevent these problems in our county.



OPIOID USE = IMPAIRED DRIVING Opioid Committee – Connie Terry, Program Assistant

With the holiday season soon upon us, it's important to remember that celebrating the holidays, often comes with an uptick in impaired driving. Drugged driving is driving a vehicle while impaired due to the intoxicating effects of recent drug use **(1)** whether it is a prescribed drug or an illegal drug. Poly-drugged driving, a dangerous trend, means simultaneously consuming two or more drugs prior to getting behind the wheel of an automobile. Combining drugs can magnify the effects of each drug and can lead to greater impairment increasing the risk of a crash. It puts the driver and anyone sharing the road at risk.

The market research firm IPSOS, recently surveyed 2,000 people. Results paint an alarming picture of poly-drugged driving, using a combination of legal and illegal drugs. Driving under the influence of prescription drugs can also be risky. Approximately 1 in 5 adults in the U.S. have or know of someone who has driven under the influence of prescription medications. The presence of opioids among drivers jumped from 6.8% in the fourth quarter of 2019 to 14% in the second and third quarters of 2020. **(2)**

According to research conducted by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving), 18% of those surveyed admit to taking opioids before driving. 22% admitted to poly-drugged driving. 1 in 20 U.S. adults admit to driving within two hours of consuming each of the prescription medications surveyed which include, stimulants, depressants, and poly-drug combinations. **(3)**

Opioids are depressants and can slow reaction time. They can cause drowsiness, dizziness, and impair cognitive functioning (thinking and judgement). Opioids impair judgement of time and distance and decrease coordination. All these effects can lead to vehicle crashes. Opioid prescriptions typically come with warnings on the Rx label, not to operate heavy equipment. Combining an opioid with another depressant, such as marijuana or alcohol, can be particularly dangerous.

Drugged driving, regardless of the drug(s) consumed, is a serious crime. To prevent drugged driving follow the same steps used to prevent driving under the influence of alcohol. Take the car keys if you know someone has consumed depressants or stimulants, illicit or prescribed. Use a (non-consuming, non-drinking), designated driver. Discuss the risks of drugged driving with friends in advance. Always talk to your doctor or pharmacist about the side effects of the medications you take.

Remember that combining drugs, prescription medications or illicit drugs, can lead to greater impairment and a greater risk of causing a crash. Don't risk your life or the lives of others.

- (1) Drugged Driving DrugFacts | National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)**
(2) Survey: 1 in 20 U.S. Adults Drives High on Prescription Drugs - Safety - Automotive Fleet (automotive-fleet.com)
(3) Drugged Driving Prevention | MADD

Upcoming Events:**Next Coalition Meeting**

November 10, 2021
11:00 am – Currently Virtual

**UAD Town Hall Meeting
Presentation**

Date - TBD
Time - TBD
Location - TBD

Kathi & Chris Sullivan will be returning to our community for an additional presentation to our parents and athletes on the dangers of underage drinking.

<https://www.letsengage.com/talent/kathi-sullivan>



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**MISSION:**

To promote healthy and safe communities in Steuben County by reducing alcohol and drug use among our youth!

VISION:

To have a county where our youth are healthy and drug free!

**Cannabis Legalization in NYS
Volunteer Recognition**

The Coalition has been very active in the process of engaging the municipalities in Steuben County to provide information relative to the Opting Out vs. Opting In provision for Retail Dispensaries and On-Site Consumption Sites for recreational marijuana.

The following people need to be congratulated and thanked for their never-ending efforts to bring much needed educational awareness and information to our municipalities and how it will affect our communities:

Sheriff Jim Allard, District Attorney Brooks Baker, and Chairwoman of the Coalition, Hilda Lando have spent an untold number of hours volunteering to engage our municipalities.



Steuben Prevention Coalition (SPC) is a federal Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant funded program in Steuben County. The "Ounce of Prevention" Newsletter is a regular monthly update of activities of the Coalition relative to alcohol, marijuana and other drug use and abuse prevention.

For more information or to be removed from the newsletter mailing list, please contact Colleen Banik, Program Coordinator at colleen.banik@dor.org or at (607) 776-8085 (temporary number as of 1/2021).

**Steuben County Underage Party & Drug
Information Tip Line**

Anyone with information relating to underage drinking such as parties, underage sales, etc. or information relating to illegal drugs, such as sales, dealers or other suspicious activities are encouraged to use the tip line.

The Tip Line will be monitored seven days a week, 24 hours a day. All call are anonymous.

Do your part to help make our communities safe for everyone.

1-844-378-4847