



Ounce of Prevention Newsletter

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Message to Coalition Members:



Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year from the Steuben Prevention Coalition

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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(607) 776-8085

Website:

www.steubenpreventioncoalition.org

Email:

steubenpreventioncoalition2017@gmail.com

Staff:

Colleen Banik
Program Coordinator
colleen.banik@dor.org



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

Steuben Prevention Coalition Needs Your Help

The Steuben Prevention Coalition would like to invite all community members to become a part of our team.

Our mission is to promote healthy and safe communities in Steuben County by reducing alcohol and drug use among our youth.

Our vision is to have a county where our youth are healthy and drug free.

We are looking for community members/volunteers to join us in educating our youth and communities about the harms and risk of substance use.



If you are interested, please contact us colleen.banik@dor.org for further information.



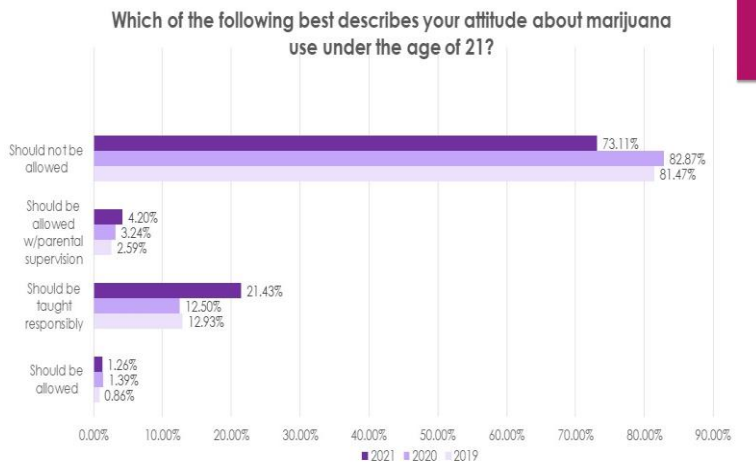
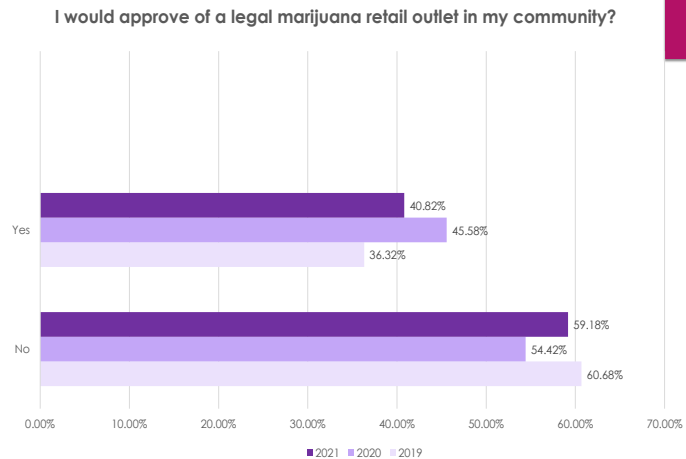
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2021 Adult Perception Survey Data Results Continued from December Edition

The Steuben Prevention Coalition administered the 2021 Adult Perception Survey throughout Steuben County.

When survey participants were asked “If they would approve of a legal marijuana retail outlet in their community”, the results indicated that 59.18% of the participants did NOT approve while 40.82% of participants would approve.

When survey participants were asked “Which of the following best describes your attitude about marijuana use under the age of 21?” with the answer choices being – should not be allowed, should be allowed with parental supervision, should be taught responsibly, or should be allowed – the results indicated 73.11% of participants felt that they should NOT be allowed which is a significant decrease by 9.76% from the 2020 Survey Results, AND the results also indicated 21.43% of participants felt that they should be taught to use responsibly which is a significant increase by 8.93% from the 2020 Survey Results.



Significant decrease in “should NOT be allowed” by 9.76% ↓
Signification increase in “should be taught responsibly” by 8.93% ↑

Opioid Committee Continues to Deliver Sharps Containers to Steuben County Law Enforcement Agencies

Members of the Steuben Prevention Coalition Opioid Committee, Krystle Blencowe and Hilda Lando, delivered gifts of sharps containers for patrol vehicles to the Addison Police Department and the Corning Police Department.

Using puncture proof sharps containers will help limit the potential exposure of bloodborne pathogens like Hepatitis and HIV, among many others that may spread as a result of improper contact with contaminated sharps.



Thank you to all the police agencies in Steuben County and our own Steuben Prevention Coalition Opioid Committee for keeping our residents safe.



Cyber Shopping with a Twist: Teens are Buying Drugs Online

Opioid Committee – Connie Terry, Program Assistant

Keeping up with advancing technology can be overwhelming to many people. Combine that with staying on top of a teenager’s online social life can make parents crazy with worry. All parents want to keep their children safe from online predators. Unfortunately, that has become an increasingly difficult task.

Social media platforms have given drug dealers an easy way to sell their drugs. According to BARKS (Social Media Monitoring System) 2020 research on children and technology, 78% of tweens and 91% of teens engaged in conversations surrounding drugs and alcohol. Perhaps even more troubling is the ease in which teens can purchase drugs online. All it takes is Grandma’s birthday gift card and a couple clicks. It’s as simple as ordering a pizza.

Whether it’s the dark web or popular social media platforms like SnapChat, TikTok, Instagram and Reddit, easy access to drugs is provided without much effort. Teens often use abbreviations and emojis when seeking drugs online and use them to escape parents prying eyes. Parents should be mindful of popular “drug speak” like the examples listed below:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| DOC- Drug of Choice | 420 – Marijuana |
| PAL -Parents are Listening | KPC – Keeping Parents Clueless |
| RN- Right Now | G2G – Got to Go |
| P911 -Parent Alert | TTYL – Talk to you Later |



<https://www.thehubct.org/post/kids-can-buy-drugs-easier-than-you-think>

Parents also need to be aware of the dangers of counterfeit drugs sold online. Many contain fentanyl, a dangerous synthetic drug that can cause overdose and death.

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Upcoming Events:

Next Coalition Meeting

January 12, 2022
11:00 am – Currently Virtual

UAD Town Hall Meeting

Date - TBD
Time – TBD
Location - TBD

Marijuana Town Hall Meeting

Date – TBD
Time – TBD
Location - TBD

Opioid Community Forums
TBD

Narcan Trainings
TBD



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VISION:

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

**Cyber Shopping with a Twist:
Teens are Buying Drugs Online – Cont’d**

Fentanyl is 50-100 times more powerful than heroin. Fake prescription drugs, which look identical to their prescription counterparts, like Vicodin, Xanax and Adderall are being sold in alarming quantities online. Drug dealers do not subscribe to any form of quality control. The bottom line is the buyer doesn't know what he's getting.

Parents should try to keep the lines of communication open and have frank and honest discussions with their tweens and teenagers. Make sure your teen understands the consequences of drug use and the dangers of counterfeit drugs sold on the street and online. Check your kid's search histories often if you suspect drug use and monitor all packages delivered to your home. Consider using a social media monitoring software program.

You can compare them at [Best Social Media Monitoring Software 2021 | Reviews of the Most Popular Tools & Systems \(capterra.com\)](https://www.capterra.com/best-social-media-monitoring-software-2021/)

In a perfect world, parents wouldn't have to worry about their teen's online life. The pandemic has exacerbated teen mental health problems and has spurred the online sale of drugs. Parent's need to remain vigilant. For more information go to:

- <https://apcbham.org/2021/09/02/more-teens-are-buying-drugs-on-social-media-heres-what-you-need-to-know/>
- <https://www.bark.us/blog/drug-slang-emojis/>
- <https://www.drugaddictionnow.com/2018/10/03/emojis-give-youth-a-new-way-to-communicate-about-substance-abuse/>
- <https://admin.dea.gov/onepill>

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