

A courageous community, where all young people thrive

Ferndale Community Coalition

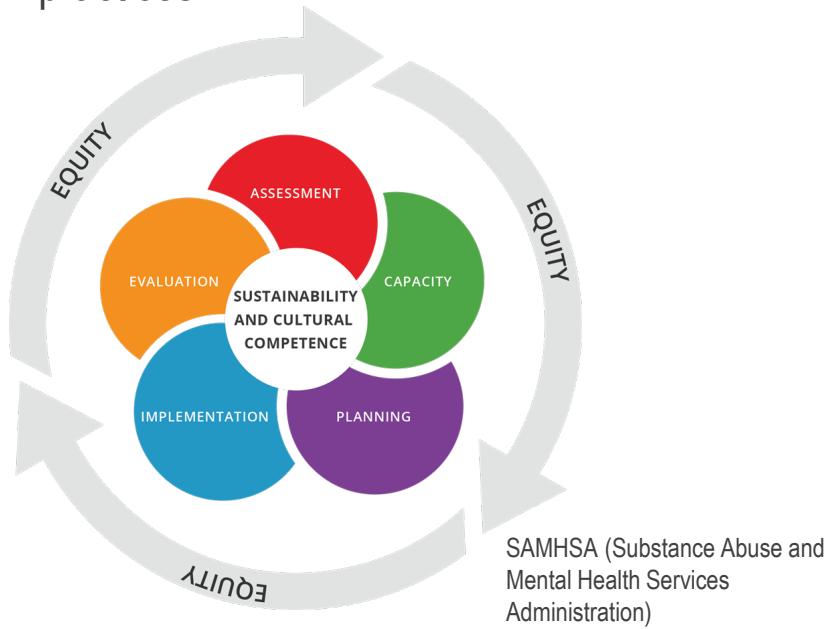


The mission of the Ferndale Community Coalition is to engage the community to promote healthy youth development by addressing equity, safety and substance abuse issues.



About the Ferndale Community Coalition

- Built on community and school district initiatives and partnerships
- Consists of multiple sectors of the community (70+ active members) and organizations across the county that contribute to making positive changes for youth and families in Ferndale
- We use the **strategic prevention framework** to coordinate community assessment, planning, and strategy implementation which builds upon existing strengths and efforts in the community
- All strategies are data-driven, based on local conditions, and are evidence-based or promising practices



About the Ferndale Community Coalition

- The coalition is a strategy in the **Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI)** which is designed to provide local substance abuse prevention services and strategies
- We have multiple funding sources and support from government and community leaders

CPWI communities receive funding through the Washington State Health Care Authority/Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery to implement approved substance use prevention strategies

ESD 189 receives direct funding connected to these efforts for the Student Assistance Prevention-Intervention Program in Ferndale High School

Coalition Strategies are also supported through the Behavioral Health Fund (local sales tax), the Regional Youth Cannabis and Commercial Tobacco Prevention and Education Program (YCCTPP) funding through WA DOH, and other sources

In-kind support goes towards strategy success – time, efforts and expertise of coalition members; meeting and program implementation space at City-owned and district facilities; etc.

**We believe that safe,
trusted adults are in an
important position to
increase
young people's**

- **protective factors and positive childhood experiences** by maintaining positive connections with youth, helping youth cultivate healthy peer relationships and contributing to a community culture of belonging
- **hope** by guiding them towards multiple pathways to their goals, celebrating each step and encouraging them to keep going even in the face of obstacles



“Drug & alcohol prevention” is so much more...



- Suicide prevention
- Dropout prevention
- Substance use disorder prevention
- Drunk driving death prevention
- Cancer prevention
- Disease prevention
- Incarceration prevention
- Crime prevention



- Increases mental health
- Increases future lifetime earnings
- Increases graduation rates
- Increases life stability
- Increases community health

Stops the cycle of trauma



Keeping the scale tipped in the right direction!

(2023 Healthy Youth Survey)

Current Alcohol Use:

Lowest 10th grade rate recorded (2012-2023)

Current Problem Drinking:

Lowest 10th grade rate recorded (2012-2023)

Current Cannabis Use:

Second-lowest 10th grade rate recorded (2012-2023)

Current Cigarette Smoking:

Lowest 10th grade rate recorded (2012-2023)

Current Nicotine Vaping:

Lowest 10th grade rate since 2018 (2012-2023)

Feeling Sad or Hopeless (Depression):

Lowest 8th grade rate since 2014 (2012-2023)

Family Protective Factor – Opportunities for Prosocial Engagement:

Highest 8th grade rate recorded (2012-2023)

School Protective Factor (Social Support) – People at school to help if needed:

Highest 8th grade rate since 2016 (2012-2023)

Community Protective Factor – Adults to turn to if feeling sad or hopeless:

Highest 8th grade rate recorded (2012-2023)

Programs and strategies directly supported through our CPWI Strategic Plan



Prevention/Intervention Strategies: Student Assistance Program, school prevention efforts & clubs – ESD 189, Ferndale Schools

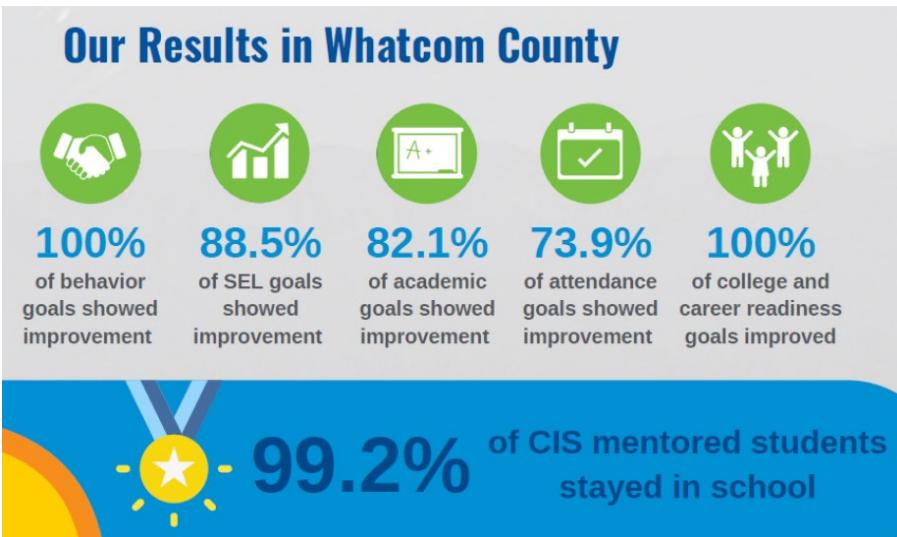


Every dollar invested in effective school-based programs creates \$18 of economic benefit for the community (WA State Institute for Public Policy)





Direct Service Youth Strategies: School-based case management and groups - Communities in Schools



Every dollar invested in CIS creates \$11.60 of economic benefit for the community (WA State Institute for Public Policy)





Every dollar invested in SFP creates \$9.60 of economic benefit for the community (WA State Institute for Public Policy)

Direct Service Family Strategies: WSU Extension - Strengthening Families Program 10-14



- Delay onset of adolescent substance use
- Increase ability of parents to set appropriate limits & show affection
- Reducing family stress
- Lower levels of aggression

Trainings and resources for youth, parents and professionals





Youth and family community events focused on positive peer relationships, leadership skills and community connection



Campaigns, programs and projects
promoting positive and honest
community norms, healthy choices
& connections



Environmental Strategies: Policy development, systems coordination, education



SEE | UNDERSTAND | PREVENT OPIOID MISUSE

- LOCK UP YOUR MEDS**
Secure medications in a locked bag, box, or other secure location.
- MONITOR YOUR MEDS**
Download and use a medicine inventory sheet (available at whatcomhope.org)
- FOLLOW DIRECTIONS**
Follow the instructions provided with your prescription.
- TAKE BACK UNUSED MEDS**
Properly dispose of unused medications. Find convenient locations with secure disposal drop-off locations or where you can obtain mail-back supplies by going to: medtakebackwashington.org or by calling 844-482-5322 (844-4-TAKE-BACK)
- ACCESS LIFE-SAVING NALOXONE**
Naloxone is a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. whatcomhope.org/in-case-of-overdose
- FIND TREATMENT RESOURCES**
If you or a loved one may be experiencing substance misuse, help is available. whatcomhope.org/get-help

Learn more about managing your pain here: whatcomhope.org/managing-your-pain/

WHATCOM HAS HOPE
preventing opioid misuse

DISPOSE OF YOUR UNWANTED MEDICATION SAFELY, EASILY.

OPIOID MISUSE IS PREVENTABLE.

WHATCOM HAS HOPE

- Ad by Whatcom Community Health**
Keep Your Kids Safe
Talk to your kids about the dangers of fake pills that look like real medications.
- OPIOID MISUSE IS PREVENTABLE**
talk to your kids
about the risks and consequences of substance use
LEARN MORE
WHATCOM HAS HOPE whatcomhope.org
- Opioid use disorder can happen to anyone.**
Addiction is a disease that physically **rewires** the brain.
SIGNS OF ADDICTION
 - Mood swings
 - Increased temper
 - Tiredness
 - Paranoia
 - Inability to focus or concentrate**KNOW THE SIGNS**

Thank You!

Contact us -

Kaatri Jones: Kaatri.Jones@Ferndalesd.org

Rebecca Snearly: RSnearly@co.whatcom.wa.us



WHATCOM COUNTY
**HEALTH AND
COMMUNITY
SERVICES**

