

Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana

A Division of the



Comprehensive Community Plan

County: Elkhart County

LCC: Elkhart County Drug-Free Partnership

Date Due: June 2017

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New Plan **Plan Update**



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Plan Summary

Mission Statement:

The Elkhart County Drug-Free Partnership brings community stakeholders together in a voluntary effort to reduce the prevalence of substance misuse and other unhealthy behaviors.

History:

In 1989, the Governor's office proposed that every county in Indiana coordinate services and develop a plan to deal with alcohol and other drugs. Elkhart County is a collaborative community and at the time many groups were already convening to discuss substance abuse issues.

In the 1980's treatment providers routinely gathered, law enforcement worked through the Drug Task Force and prevention professionals coordinated work with city youth. The Partnership provided an excellent opportunity for these groups to work together.

From our inception, the Partnership was dedicated to reducing substance misuse through prevention, treatment and criminal justice efforts. However, with so many smaller groups looking at the same issues, the Partnership decided to coordinate a regional seminar at the county's community mental health organization (Oaklawn) to focus specifically on issues around addiction in the early 1990's.

As the Partnership gained momentum, the work load became more than a small group of volunteers could manage. The Drug-Free Community Fund management was substantial and the group's work was limited by human resources. Therefore in 1993, the board hired the first part-time coordinator to assist in the administrative duties and to champion the mission. The Partnership was now able to support quality programs in Elkhart County and offer periodic training and workshops to increase the knowledge base within the community.

In 2003, a second part-time paid coordinator position was introduced which allowed the Partnership to be proactive in efforts within the county. In 2004, the Partnership revamped the DFCF (Drug Free Community Fund) RFP (Request for Funds Proposal) process to include a logic model and a renewed focus on measurable outcomes.

It became apparent that people in the broader community were not aware of the Partnership's work. In 2007, as a strategy to increase awareness of the coalition's work, a newsletter was created. The newsletter highlighted people working in prevention, criminal justice and treatment. Local people were asked to reflect on the impact of the Partnership in Elkhart County. The newsletter also included articles on relevant topics around substance abuse and upcoming events.

While the Partnership had always encouraged training and workshops for professionals in the community, in 2004 they deepened that commitment with the introduction of "Get Up TO Speed" workshops. In the early 2000's, methamphetamine was a growing concern in the broader

community. The public knew little about this new drug that was making the news. The first “Get Up To Speed” workshop was a 4 part series that focused on methamphetamine through the lenses of prevention, treatment, criminal justice and community coordination. Speakers were brought in from all over the nation. This set the tone for these types of trainings. The Partnership was committed to providing access to the local community to experts from around the nation on relevant topics regarding AOD issues.

Since 2004, the Partnership has offered additional “Get Up to Speed” workshops and trainings on a variety of issues including: prescription drug abuse, marijuana, drug trends, ethics and resistive skills. The intent of the workshops continues to be to provide quality training (with national level speakers) at a nominal cost. The workshops have been well received and routinely have attendees from both Elkhart County and surrounding counties.

In 2012, a contingent of board and staff attended the CADCA meeting in February. There they were introduced to Social Norming, learned about MedReturn Boxes and attended several sessions on the legalization of marijuana. That same year, the Partnership hosted a “Get Up to Speed” workshop on Social Norming which resulted in a deeper dive in Positive Community Norms model for all prevention funding. Trainings were conducted by Amity Chandler with Drug-Free Charlotte County (Florida) whose program was a CADCA winner. For additional training the Montana “Most of US” training was also brought to Elkhart County. These “Get Up to Speed” workshops guided the work of the Partnership based on the interest shown by the Elkhart County Community.

Also in 2004, the Partnership established an “Annual Meeting” where recognition was given to individuals who advanced the Partnership’s mission through their work. This was an additional way to reach a broader community and inform them of the work and issues being addressed by the Partnership. Special keynote speakers included representatives from ICJI, the DEA, SAM (Smart Approaches to Marijuana) just to name a few. One of the highlights of the Annual Meeting was the recognition of the top OWI (Operating While Intoxicated) officers from each department. In 2013, the board examined the intent and benefit of the annual meeting vs. the cost. It was determined to change the annual meeting format to an OWI awards dinner to include all of the local law enforcement departments, the prosecuting attorney and other local government officials. This event included in 2014 the distribution of perpetual plaques for each department listing their Top OWI officers for the past years. The Partnership views this as an important celebration in educating and recognizing the time and effort it takes to make OWI arrests. Because the DFCF relies on these types of arrests, the Partnership believes recognition of this type is important for the relationship between the Partnership and local law enforcement. In 2017, the Criminal Justice Committee wished to increase the attendance and value of the OWI dinner. This year a special keynote speaker, Chief Jackson who was the acting chief in Ferguson during the riots spoke. The focus was on what happened and what could have been different. It was recognized in the current climate, with press relations and tension among the public, relationships between the community and Law Enforcement can turn on a dime. Additional awards were also given out to key members of the community who had advanced the Partnership’s work in the previous year.

Over the years, as the membership and local climate have dictated, the Partnership has created and discontinued many things. At one point, new memberships were a common occurrence. During this time, the Partnership hosted “New Member Luncheons” where staff would educate and inform new members of the goals and mission for the coalition. Around 2005, school’s DARE programs were losing funding and being discontinued. For 8 years, until 2013 the Partnership provided a mini-grant program offering \$200 for schools to do prevention programs. Many red ribbon week and prom/graduation programs were funded during this time. In 2014, Social Norming programs replaced these activities.

In 2012, after attending the CADCA National Conference in Washington DC, the coalition held several focus groups and work meetings to better articulate the mission and goals of the coalition. From these meetings it was determined that going forth the Partnership would embrace a role in supporting local groups in their work around AOD in the areas of prevention, treatment and criminal justice, inform the public in general with reliable information about AOD and educate the professionals in our community through Lunch & Learns and Get Up to Speed trainings. This realignment gave better direction and clarity to our work.

Summary of the Comprehensive Community Plan:

The Partnership’s Comprehensive Plan is organized through the coordinator’s office with oversight provided by the Executive Board of Directors, a duly elected governing body by the general membership. The plan’s process includes steps that include steps that attempt to ensure both Partnership members and others in the community are involved.

On February 6, 2017, during a General Membership meeting, the coalition reviewed the past Comprehensive Plan and had discussion on what the current climate is in Elkhart County. They discussed and brainstormed about both problems and possible solutions. This helped to narrow down problem statements.

Several previous goals were continued. The Partnership’s dedication to using social norms for all prevention activities is showing an impact and was determined an important component to prevention. Offering medication disposal for the community in order to get old medications out of homes and potentially in the wrong hands is also a goal that continues. ICJI’s parameters around what is considered intervention/treatment also assisted in guiding the Partnership to continue to support treatment scholarships.

This dialog resulted in the identification of problem statements. The general membership voted at the April meeting to adopt these problem statements and recommended actions for the 2017 plan.

The Elkhart County commissioners involve one staff member who participates in the planning, direction and focus of the Partnership's plan and activities. The Partnership's Director is instrumental in compiling the data derived from the members. It is believed that the following problem statements and recommended actions appropriately reflect the climate and concerns in Elkhart County and contain strategies which will reduce the problems identified.

Membership List

County LCC Name:

#	Name	Organization	Race	Gender	Category
1	Wayne Bias	Elkhart Police Department	Black/African American	Male	Law Enforcement
2	Richard Brewton	Elkhart County Prosecuting Attorney's Office	White/Caucasian	Male	Law Enforcement
3	Sharon Burden	AARC	White/Caucasian	Female	Other
4	Andrew Bylsma	Elkhart County Health Department-Health Education Division	White/Caucasian	Male	Governmental Agency
5	Sam Callantine	Gweedo's Purple Shamrock	White/Caucasian	Male	Civic Organization
6	Erin Cataldo	St. Vincent de Paul School	White/Caucasian	Female	Religious/Faternal Organization
7	Teresa Clifford	A Promise for Recovery LLC	White/Caucasian	Female	Business
8	Erika Contreras	Tobacco Control of Elkhart County	Hispanic/Latino	Female	Governmental Agency
9	Daphne Coy	Elkhart County Sheriff Department	White/Caucasian	Female	Business
10	Mike Culp	Elkhart County Sheriff's Department	White/Caucasian	Male	Law Enforcement
11	Dan Danen	Danen Counseling Services	White/Caucasian	Male	Other
12	Jeff Dolson	Indiana State Police Dist. #21	White/Caucasian	Male	Law Enforcement
13	Leif Freehafer	Elkhart County Prosecutor's office	White/Caucasian	Male	Law Enforcement
14	Nicki Green	Center for Problem Resolution	White/Caucasian	Female	Parent
15	Gloria Guadarrama	None	Hispanic/Latino	Female	Parent
16	Karen Gugel	outpatient treatment center	White/Caucasian	Female	Business
17	Michelle Haas	Oaklawn	White/Caucasian	Female	Other
18	James Hargrove	Self	White/Caucasian	Male	Governmental Agency
19	Jennifer Hartl	A Promise for Recovery LLC	White/Caucasian	Female	Business
20	Cheryl Hollingsworth	Recovery Journey	White/Caucasian	Female	Youth Serving Organization
21	Sean Holmes	Elkhart County Sheriff's Department	White/Caucasian	Male	Law Enforcement

22	John Horsley	Oaklawn	White/Caucasian	Male	Healthcare
23	John Hulewicz	Elkhart County Health Dept	White/Caucasian	Male	Governmental Agency
24	Jessica Koscher	ADEC, Inc.	Asian	Female	Civic Organization
25	Anna Miller	Recovery Journey	White/Caucasian	Female	Business
26	Jose Miller	Goshen Police Department	White/Caucasian	Male	Law Enforcement
27	Dan Nafziger	echd	White/Caucasian	Male	Healthcare
28	Jan Noble	ARC	White/Caucasian	Male	Healthcare
29	Kryston Noble-Hartzler	Addictions Recovery Centers, Inc.	White/Caucasian	Female	Healthcare
30	Pat Parker	A Promise for Recovery LLC	White/Caucasian	Female	Business
31	Mark Potuck	IU Health Goshen Hospital	White/Caucasian	Male	Healthcare
32	Tina Robertson	Oaklawn	White/Caucasian	Female	Religious/Faternal Organization
33	Steve Rulli	Nappanee Police Department	White/Caucasian	Male	Youth Serving Organization
34	Jeff Siegel	Elkhart County Sheriff's Department	White/Caucasian	Male	Law Enforcement
35	Jim Starkey	Elkhart County Health Dept. (retired)	White/Caucasian	Male	Other
36	Adrienne Thomas	Elkhart County Health Department - Tobacco Control	White/Caucasian	Female	Governmental Agency
37	Emily Villalba	A Promise for Recovery LLC	Hispanic/Latino	Female	Business
38	Meg Waddell	Lake City Bank	White/Caucasian	Female	Religious/Faternal Organization
39	Robin Wenger	City of Elkhart	White/Caucasian	Male	Governmental Agency
40	Amber Werner	Bridges Out of Poverty/ Michiana Bridges	White/Caucasian	Female	Other
41	Ed Windbigler	Elkhart Police Department	White/Caucasian	Male	Law Enforcement
42	Mary Yoder Holsopple	Elkhart Community Schools	White/Caucasian	Female	Education
43	Carrie Zickefoose	SPA Ministries	White/Caucasian	Female	Religious/Fraternal Organization

Problem Identification

A. Problem Statement #1: People in Elkhart County need a safe way to dispose of unused medication on a regular basis.

B. Supportive Data:

1. Residents in Elkhart County are not clear on where to dispose of medications safely. In the past, bi-annual medication drop off days were hosted by Elkhart County Triad. These events yielded approximately 2,000 lbs annually. In 2013, the Partnership purchased MedReturn boxes and placed them in 8 of the 9 county police departments. In 2016, the boxes yielded a collection of 2,541 lbs. Reports continue that hospice services, in particular continue to flush unused medications. (Source: Drug-Free Partnership reports)

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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C. Goals:

1. Increase the amount of medications collected by 10% annually.

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

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End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report (end of Year 3):

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D. Objectives:

1. Promote the MedReturn program to the public through public education on the reasons to use the MedReturn boxes.

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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A. Problem Statement #2: There is a gap between the “perception” and the “reality” of both use and the harmful nature of substances (including alcohol, marijuana, prescription drugs and other drugs).

B. Supportive Data:

1. Students surveyed in 2016-17 school year showed that while most students do not use substances, those who believe it's the norm are at significantly higher risk of having used themselves in the past 30 days. (Source: Positively Elkhart County, 2017)
2. In 2016, Positively Elkhart County surveyed 2,471 local High School Students to determine both actual use and perceived use. This is the third survey conducted in this manner. This survey indicated that students still perceive use to be much higher than actual use. For example, 15% of students admitted to smoking cigarettes but believed 62% of students smoke. Same with marijuana use where 19% had used marijuana in the past 30 days but they perceived that 66% had used. While the gap between these numbers seems large, we have measured a decrease in the gap between perceived and real use. In 2016, the gap between perception and reality of use decreased by 10% which exceeded the goal of a 5% reduction. (Source: Positively Elkhart County, 2016 year end report).

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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C. Goals:

1. Reduce the gap between perception and reality of substance use in prevention programs by 5% annually.

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

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End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report (end of Year 3):

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D. Objectives:

- 1. Survey students, parents and community groups to measure the difference between the perception and reality of use, risky behaviors and harm.
- 2. Create public awareness materials to educate the community on the reality of use/risky behaviors and harm.
- 3. Begin to work on programs that create cultural change related to the reality of use and the reduction of the gap between perception and reality.

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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A. Problem Statement #3: Local treatment agencies report the continual need to subsidize treatment for clients between 20-50% due to financial barriers. This is particularly true for individuals coming out of the justice system.

B. Supportive Data:

1. Individuals in the county jail are incarcerated on misdemeanor charges. These individuals leave the county jail and have limited ability to seek treatment while returning to work and paying fines and bills. While there are three organizations that have the Recovery Works program they are not able to assist these individuals. Our community mental health has a minimum 45-day wait. They are also the only local treatment provider who will take HIP. Therefore, it is the belief of those in Elkhart County that additional assistance needs to be made available for individuals in the justice system at this time. (Source: general membership)
2. In 2016, Addiction Recovery Centers provided 21 treatment scholarships to individuals who were in need. The average poverty rate for these participants was 133% with three individuals dropping out of the program. Over 50% of the participants reported alcohol as their primary drug of choice. Marijuana ranked as the second drug of choice followed by methamphetamine. (Source: Addiction Recovery Centers, 2016 Year-End report)
3. Center for Problem Resolution provided 33 scholarships for treatment to individuals who were at an average of 118% poverty. They reported that their scholarships reduced treatment costs for participants by 25%-75% depending on circumstances. They had 8 individuals drop out. (Source: Center for Problem Resolution, 2016 Year-End report)
4. Oaklawn, Elkhart County’s community mental health, reported offering 41 treatment scholarships in 2016 with 9 individuals dropping out. Thirty-two percent of these individuals reported alcohol as their drug of choice followed by other narcotics and methamphetamine. (Source: Oaklawn, 2016 Year-End report).

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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C. Goals:

1. Increase the number of individuals receiving financial aid for treatment by 5% annually who fall into the 138% poverty level or have been released from incarceration.

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

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End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report (end of Year 3):

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D. Objectives:

1. Provide scholarships and financial assistance for treatment for individuals living at or below the 138% poverty level or have been released from incarceration.

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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A. Problem Statement #4: Law Enforcement requires additional resources for AOD related crimes.

B. Supportive Data:

- 1. The Elkhart County Sheriff’s Department reported 651.25 over time hours during 2016 for the special “STAR” program patrol which specifically targets underage use and parties. From this patrol, 642 contacts occurred with 71 ICOAB citations being issued. This program would not exist without funding from DFCF. (Source: ECSD, 2016 Year End Report)
- 2. The Elkhart County Fatal Alcohol Crash Team (FACT) lost their previous funding in 2013. The FACT team investigates accidents that may have involved substances including alcohol and other drugs. Without additional funding this special team will be negatively impacted. (Source: Tim Hershberger, Wakarusa Police Department and FACT Team Leader)
- 3. Local law enforcement agencies continue to have patrol cards not equipped with mobile video cameras and access to other essential equipment needed for interdiction activities. (Source: 2017 Criminal Justice RFPs)

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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C. Goals:

- 1.** Increase the effectiveness of local LEA efforts around interdiction by 10% annually including number of arrests and/or officers properly equipped to conduct AOD arrests.

End of Year 1 Annual Benchmarks:

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End of Year 2 Annual Benchmarks:

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Final Report (end of Year 3):

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D. Objectives:

- 1.** Provide mobile video cameras for both officers and vehicles in the current Law Enforcement Agency fleet for OWI and other AOD roadside stops and interdiction activities.
- 2.** Provide financial support to purchase equipment needed for interdiction and investigation for ATOD enforcement.
- 3.** Provide additional resources for OT hours for special AOD investigative units (i.e. FACT Team, STAR, etc.)
- 4.** Provide local law enforcement equipment to address special situations involving an increase of heroin and opioid abuse issues including Narcan/Naloxone and other similar items.

End of Year 1 Update:

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End of Year 2 Update:

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Final Update (end of Year 3):

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Next Annual Update Due: May 2018

Next Comprehensive Community Plan Due: May 2020

Date of Community Consultant Review:

Disclaimer:

You agree that the information provided within this Plan is subject to the following Terms and Conditions. These Terms and Conditions may be modified at any time and from time to time; the date of the most recent changes or revisions will be established by the Commission and sent electronically to all Local Coordinating Councils.

Terms and Conditions:

The information and data provided is presented as factual and accurate. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding the data submitted within the Plan. Failure to do so could result in a “denied approval” by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

The Local Drug Free Communities Fund must be spent according to the goals identified within the plan. I hereby acknowledge that I can be asked to submit proper documentation regarding funds that are collected, allocated, and disbursed within the

county. Failure to do so could result in a “denied approval” by the Commission under IC 5-2-6-16.

Initials: JK