

Substance Abuse

Underage substance abuse has far-reaching community costs due to increased number of traffic accidents, increased rates in violent crime, vandalism, and untimely and unintentional deaths that rob our young people of their futures.

Last year, United Way brought together two regional coalitions with representatives from local schools, law enforcement and substance abuse treatment programs.

Today, these partners are working together to implement an innovative substance abuse prevention program using \$1.3 million in recently awarded federal funds.

The program aims to reduce the percentage of youth ages 12-17 that report binge drinking within the past 30 days and increase the age of first use of alcohol.

Did you know...

- Among high school students in our region, 30% reported that they binge drank during the past thirty days.
- In Maine, a similar program to the one started by United Way, saw a 50% reduction in underage binge drinking in just 3 years.
- Research has shown that young people who drink before age 14 are five times more likely to develop alcohol dependence in their lifetime than individuals who start drinking at age 21.

Our Partners

Child and Family Services
Community Coalition on Drug & Alcohol Use
Dover High School
Dover Middle School
Dover Police Coalition for Youth
Families First Health & Support Center
Hampton Community Coalition
New Futures Adolescent Initiative
NH Charitable Foundation-Piscataqua Region
New Heights
New Outlook Teen Center
NH Office of Drug and Alcohol Policy
NH State Representative
Northern Strafford County Health & Safety Council
Odyssey NH
Oyster River Community for Health Youth
Rockingham County Law Enforcement/Corrections
Rockingham County Liquor Commission
Rochester School Department
Seacoast Safety Net
St. Thomas Aquinas High School
Southeastern NH Drug & Alcohol Services
The Community Diversion Program
The HUB Family Resource Center