



Montgomery
County
Prevention
Coalition

Educate | Advocate | Empower

New Member **GUIDE**

LEARN MORE AT [PREVENTIONMC.ORG](https://preventionmc.org)



“ —
We are better
and stronger
when we work
together. — ”

Our Mission

The mission of the coalition is to mobilize Montgomery County to prevent youth substance use and promote positive mental health through implementation of evidence-based prevention strategies and community collaboration

Our Vision

The vision of the coalition is a community where every individual lives a substance-free life with optimal mental health





Montgomery County Prevention Coalition Personal Agreement

As a member of the Montgomery County Prevention Coalition (MCPC), I understand the need for respectful collaboration between all members. As a growing, diverse community coalition, I understand and value our differences. This valuing of diversity can only take place when we have a safe space where everyone is welcome to have brave conversations.

I know that everyone is here because they want to advance the mission of the MCPC to prevent substance use and promote mental wellness. We are all part of the MCPC and represent the communities that we live in and serve.

I understand that we are all human and have diverse skills and knowledge in building inclusive communities. Everyone's unique experiences and backgrounds make us better as a coalition.

Growth from within can be difficult. With the support of other coalition members, I am able to examine my personal biases, understand the perspectives of others and broaden my understanding of people who are different from me.

I take responsibility for:

- Entering discussions and meetings from a place of curiosity
- Assuming good intentions
- “Calling in” other members of the Coalition and offering feedback without shaming or judgement
- Asking clarifying questions before reacting
- Recognizing and struggling with my own sensitivities
- Respectfully communicating concerns
- Respecting the confidentiality of all personal information shared by coalition members

We are better and stronger when we work together.

[Created by the National Conference for Community and Justice in partnership with the MCPC]



Our Goals

Reduce Youth Substance Use

6%

of Montgomery County 7-12th graders reported alcohol use in the past 30 days (Panorama, 2024).

3%

of Montgomery County 7-12th graders reported smoking a cigarette in the past 30 days (Panorama, 2024).

6%

of Montgomery County 7-12th graders reported misusing prescription drugs in the past 30 days (Panorama, 2024).

Promote Mental Wellness

20%

of Montgomery County 7-12th graders reported gambling with money or things while playing cards, betting on skills or sports, buying lottery tickets or scratch offs, or in internet gaming in the past 30 days (Panorama, 2024).

16%

of Montgomery County 7-12th graders reported seriously consider attempting suicide within the past 12 months (Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey, 2019-2020).

Limitation: not all schools in Montgomery County Participant in Panorama and OHYES)



Using an Evidence Based Approach



Assessment
Collecting Data

Capacity
Building Relationships
and Partnerships

Planning
Using data and
brainstorming solutions.

Implementation
Putting the plan into
action

Evaluation
Did the work make a
difference?

The coalition utilizes strategies that are back by resources, driven by local data, and proven to effectively decrease behavioral Health issues at a community level.



Prevention Strategies

Ineffective

- Substance Use Experience Simulations
i.e. Mock Car Crashes
- Knowledge-based Strategies
i.e. Statistics, Facts About Drugs
- Scare Tactics and Images of Substances
i.e. Graphic Images of Drug Use or Displays
- Teaching Signs and Symptoms of Drug Addiction.
- Stories from People in Recovery and one-time assemblies and events
- Punitive and Zero-tolerance Approaches

Effective

- Teach skills that help youth handle social situations.
- Reduce stigma and teach students how to seek help for themselves and peers.
- Provide education to youth that help them realize that substance use is not the norm.
- Screen students for potential mental health and substance use risks for early intervention.
- Teach resilience skills to help youth cope with change, manage stress, and learn from set backs.
- Advocate for policies that promote safe and healthy schools and communities.
- Promote protective factors that encourage the development of aspects of a positive life.
- Modify the physical design of spaces to enhance safety.
- Model and teach refusal skills to help empower youth when faced with uncomfortable situations.
- Enhance the skills of professionals to help achieve community level health outcomes.



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As a prevention
coalition we want to
create change in the
community where the
healthy choice is
the **easy choice**.

— • • —



Community Driven

Bringing Together 12 Community Sectors (and more!)

We understand the importance of collaboration and ensure different sectors' are represented during development of coalition strategies to create healthier communities.



Sectors are the partners, stakeholders, groups, organizations present in the community. Knowing which sectors are represented in our coalition helps us make sure we have the right people at the table.

5 Ways to Get Involved!



Attend a Full Coalition Meeting

Meetings are the first **Friday of odd months**, 10a.m -12p.m at the Dayton Metro Library. Registration can be found on Eventbrite.



Submit a Membership Application

Membership is free! Completing the application allows us to understand your interests and get the most out of your time with the coalition.

Find the application at:
preventionmc.org/connect.



Join a Committee!

Our 7 committees meet monthly and each focus on a unique community health and substance abuse prevention topic.

Find out schedule of meeting times at:
<https://www.preventionmc.org/events>.



Volunteer at an Event or bring us to you!

Sign up for a volunteer opportunity on our [SignUpGenus](#) or complete an [Event Request Form](#).

Both can also be found under the "connect with us" tab on our website



Follow us on social media & join our mailing list.



facebook.com/preventionmc/



preventionmc.org/connect



instagram.com/mcpreventioncoalition/



**Montgomery
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Youth Leadership in Prevention



Youth Leadership in Prevention (YLP) programs is a partnership between the Montgomery County Prevention Coalition, our local schools, and is inclusive of youth serving organizations. The program empowers students (grades 6-12) to become the next generation of leaders in prevention.

Our Youth Leaders create:

- Peer-to-peer supports
- Prevention messaging
- Programming that decreases drug and alcohol use while promoting mental wellness.

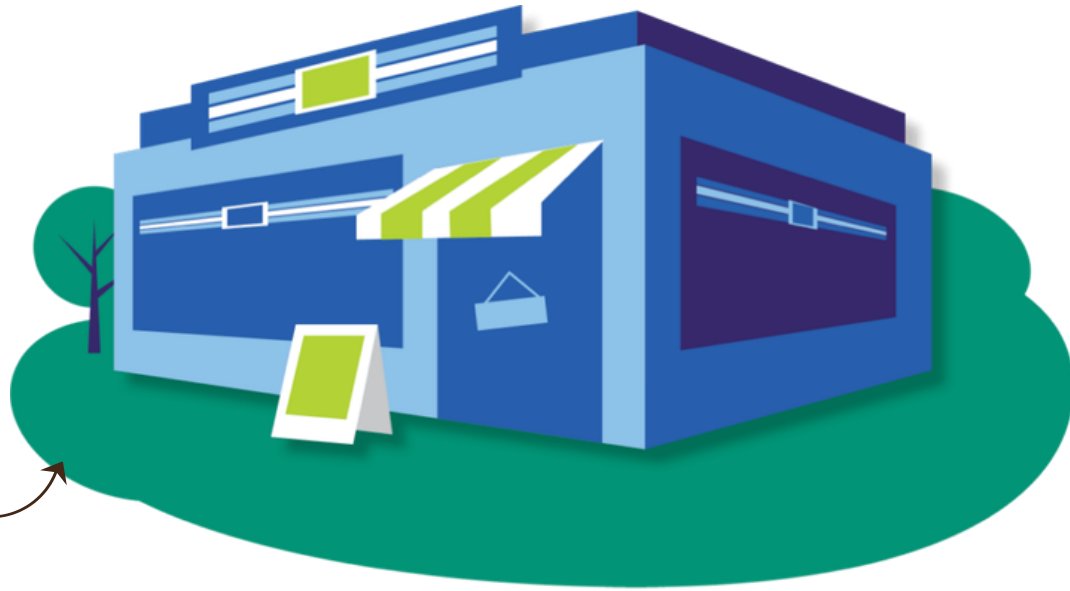
The work of YLP is student-led but adult-supported with YLP students empowered to identify problems and solutions that fit the unique culture of their school.

Find out more at

<https://www.preventionmc.org/yyp>



Retailers Care



*Click Here For
More Information*

*Creating Safer Places To Live, One
Store At A Time*

KEEPING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES AT THE FOREFRONT OF OUR COUNTY

The Montgomery County Retailers Care Program offers resources and business incentives to local store owners, so they have an opportunity to:



DECREASE TOBACCO, ALCOHOL
AND LOTTERY ADS



ESTABLISH SAFER IN-STORE
ACCESS TO THESE PRODUCTS



GENERATE SAFER BUSINESS
PLACES AND NEIGHBORHOODS



SAFE HOMES PROGRAM

A county-wide initiative that helps parents and caregivers model positive behaviors in their homes and community.

HELP CHANGE THESE STATS

According to a survey of 7-12th graders in Montgomery County:

Alcohol & Cannabis are the most used substances by youth, especially when normalized at home.

40% have never talked to their parents about the impact of substance use.

15% who consumed alcohol had their first sip at age 8 or earlier.

38% who consumed alcohol said they received it from a parent or friend's parent.

10% said that they consumed alcohol in the last 30 days.

Find out more at: <https://safehomesohio.org/>



Frequently Asked Questions

Who can join the Montgomery County Prevention Coalition?

Membership is open to any Montgomery County resident, employee, and others who support the coalition's mission.

How much is the time commitment to be a member?

The time commitment is up to each member and based on what activities they choose to participate in. Members may attend monthly committee meetings (1.5-2 hours each), the Full Coalition meetings every odd month (2 hours), and/or volunteer at events. Members can choose (and change) how involved they would like to be over time.

Who leads the Coalition?

The coalition is ultimately run by its members who help define the issues in our communities and develop and implement initiatives that prevent substance use and promote mental wellbeing. The coalition at large is supported by the Executive Board, consisting of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and the Coalition Manager, who meet monthly to provide input and support to the coalition.

What is the difference between full coalition meetings and committee meetings?

Full coalition meetings take place every other month (on odd months) and is open to members and non-members to come and learn about the work being done by each of the coalition's committees. During full coalition meetings each committee presents on past successes and current initiatives along with opportunities for engagement.

Committee meetings take place once a month and focus on a specific topic of interest. In the committee meetings members come together to identify needs, brainstorm solutions, work on projects and more. Committee meetings are where the bulk of the work of the coalition takes place.



Common Acronyms

ADAMHS

The Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addition, Mental Health Services Board funds behavioral health services such as prevention, treatment, and recovery services and is the fiscal agent of the coalition.

CADCA

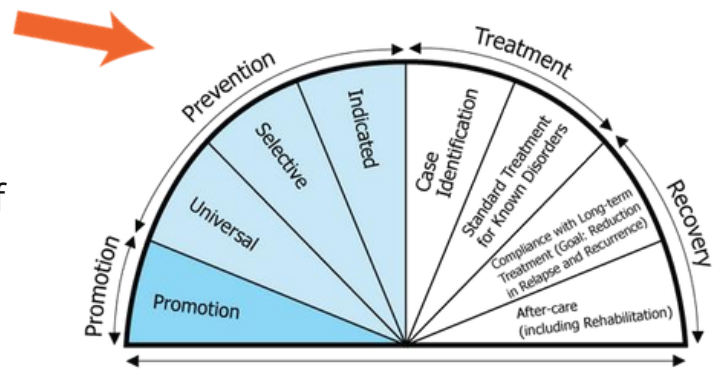
The community Anti-Drug Coalition of American is the premier prevention association empowering communities to create positive change through coalition building, training, advocacy, and support.

COAT

The Community Overdose Action Team seeks to reduce the number of people dying from drug overdoses and drug abuse

CONTINUUM OF CARE

A comprehensive approach that recognizes prevention as part of an overall continuum of care. The work of the coalition is intended to target individuals, specifically youth, before developing a substance-use disorder.



DFC

The Drug-Free Communities (DFC) grant is a bi-partisan grant through the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) that funds the Montgomery County Prevention Coalition.



OHYES

The Ohio Healthy Youth Environments Survey (OHYES!) is a statewide survey that high-impact change by uncovering student needs at the local level and help inform the coalition's strategic plans.

OMHAS

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) provides statewide leadership of a high-quality mental health and addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery system.

ONDCP

The Office of National Drug Control Policy is the federal agency that oversees the Drug Free Communities Grant.

SAMHSA

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation.

SPCA

The Statewide Prevention Coalition Association (SPCA) strengthens Ohio's prevention coalitions, professionals, and community champions with resources, technical assistance, training, networking opportunities, tool kits, and advocacy support.

SPF

The Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) is a planning framework used by the coalition to ensure successful strategies in reducing substance use and promoting mental wellness.





Words Matter

Our words matter and as MCPC members we work to use person-first language when discussing substance use and addiction. Below is a guideline of the do's and don'ts for language around substance use.

Instead of	Use
Addict / User/ Abuser/Junkie/ Tweaker	Person with a substance use disorder
Alcoholic/ Drunk	Person with an alcohol use disorder / Person with misuses alcohol
Former Addict /Recovered Addict / Clean	Person in Recovery / Person who previously used drugs
Habit	Substance Use Disorder
Abuse (Prescription Drugs)	Misuse / Used other than prescribed
Mentally Ill / Crazy / Insane /Disturbed	Person living with mental health challenges
Depressed / Schizophrenic	Person living with depression /schizophrenic
Manic-Depressive	Person living with bipolar disorder
Completed Suicide/ Committed Suicide/ Successful Suicide	Died by Suicide



Contact Us



Megs Francis (They/Them)
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For more information about coalition leadership visit:
www.preventionmc.org/leadership

Connect with MCPC



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[Facebook](#)



[Membership Application](#)

