

DRUG TREATMENT COURTS OF HOPE FOR YOUTH

Like Esperanza para los Jóvenes, SAMHSA's other Juvenile Treatment Drug Court grantees are expanding alcohol and drug

The young Californians served by the Monterey County Health Department's Hope for Youth/Esperanza para los Jóvenes face incredible challenges. Primarily Latino, they live in neighborhoods plagued by gangs, violence, criminal behavior, and easy access to alcohol, marijuana, methamphetamine, cocaine, and other drugs.

After receiving a 3-year Juvenile Treatment Drug Court grant from SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) in 2010, the county has been trying to achieve better outcomes for these youth by getting young offenders out of the justice system and away from incarceration, the project includes alcohol and drug treatment, regular meetings with the judge, and drug testing.

The approach seems to be working. Recent trends are moving in the right direction," said project director Teresa Inniss-Scimone, M.F.T., of the county's Behavioral Health Bureau. "Fewer young people are relapsing, re-offending, or moving out of a higher level of care," she said. "More are staying in school and in their communities."

If a young person with mental, substance use, or co-occurring disorders does get involved with the justice system, we in the behavioral health system have let that young person down. — Larke Huang, Ph.D.

Fewer young people are relapsing, re-offending, or moving out of a higher level of care," she said. "More are staying in school and in their communities."

Originally, after the creation of adult drug courts, juvenile drug courts were created by simply taking their central elements and

Originally, after the creation of adult drug courts, juvenile drug courts were created by simply taking their central elements and

Community Coalitions Prevent Underage Drinking

In 2003, a high school principal in rural Hunterdon County, NJ, learned that his junior high school-aged son was given alcohol at a party. His and other reports of social hosting, the practice of parents supplying children with alcohol or making it accessible at home, led the principal and other community leaders to join together and create Hunterdon Safe Homes, a group dedicated to reducing the social availability of alcohol to youth.

The group involved schools, parents, law enforcement, and others in their efforts to address the access by minors to alcohol as well as the perceived lack of harm of underage drinking and parental approval. This collaboration led to the development of the Safe Homes directory, where parents could identify themselves as parents committed to hosting alcohol-free gatherings for youth.

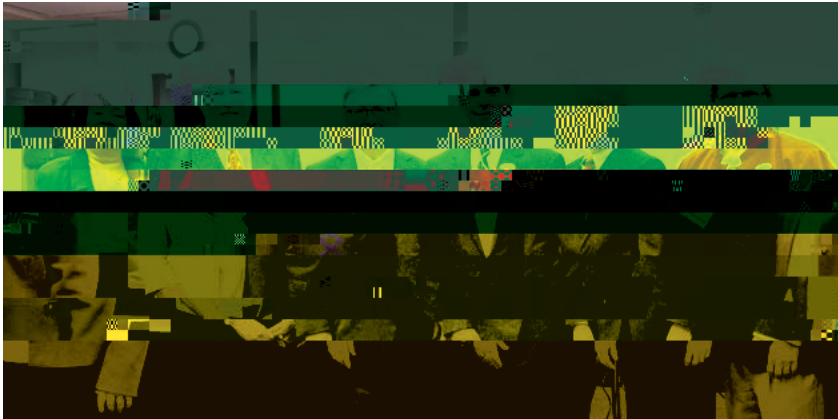
Drug Free Communities Support Program

While Hunterdon Safe Homes made significant progress with limited resources, there was still more work to do. In 2009, with help of a Drug Free Communities Support Program (DFC) grant, they changed their name to the Safe Communities Coalition (www.safe).



Addressing Substance Use in Tribal Communities

Alcoholism and addiction are among the



SAMHSA News is the national newsletter of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The year by SAMHSA's Office of Communications. SAMHSA reserves all rights of copyright, and we encourage reprint articles. To give proper credit, please follow the format of the following:

•This article [excerpt] appears in SAMHSA News, Volume 21, Number 2, Winter 2018. SAMHSA News is the national newsletter of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

SAMHSA NEWS EDITOR

Deborah Goodman

SAMHSA'S ADMINISTRATOR AND CENTER DIRECTORS

Pamela S. Hyde, Administrator, SAMHSA


Frances M. Hardin, Director, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention

H. Westley Clark, M.D., J.D., Director, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment

Paolo del Vecchio, M.D., Director, Center for Mental Health Services

Peter Delany, Ph.D., LC, Director, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Information

CONNECT WITH SAMHSA

 www.facebook.com/samhsa

 www.twitter.com/samhsagov

 www.istock.com/samhsa

Access Resources



Visit the online SAMHSA Store to view, download, or order the following publications, videos, and resources for outreach and training:

www.store.samhsa.gov

Order sample publications:

Call ...877...SAMHSA (All-free)

Find Help

Locate prevention, treatment, and recovery support services in your area.

of a Traumatic Event:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Rockville, MD 20857

SAMHSA News is going paperless!



Two Ways to Subscribe!

Visit www.samhsa.gov
and enter your
email address under
Mailing List.

OR

Scan this code with
your smartphone.