

HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2020

The Carlsbad Coalition has had an outstanding group of **Board of Directors** over the years. This year we said good-bye to some and hello to others. We are excited to welcomed back JMA Principal, Kelli Barta to the Board of Directors and welcomed City Councilman, Jason “JJ” Chavez, CIS Principal Andrea Edmonson, and Albertsons’ Assistant Manager, Jacob Puckett. Thank you to our long-standing Board of Director’s, Steve Cummings-Board President, Mary Garwood, Richard Doss, and SS Dara, M.D.

The Carlsbad Coalition has also made great additions to the **staff**. We welcomed Erin Williams as our Office of Substance Abuse Prevention Program Manager, Samantha Smith as our Program Assistant for multiple grants, Sarah Bowman as our Media Specialist and Hannah Kim as our Youth Representative. Thankful for Tiffany Shirley and Julie Fuentes for their exemplary work, innovative ideas and mentoring abilities over the years as our Program Managers and for Natalie Skogerboe who has been the Coalition’s Evaluator since 2016 and has been a tremendous asset to assessing and evaluating the needs in our community.

We were blessed to have obtained and maintained several **grants** over this past year. Thank you to the Child Advocacy Center for funding a school-based program that was matched by United Way of Eddy County’s Community Impact Grant to provide services to middle and high school youth that focus on life skills, risk and protective factors, and alternatives to substance use and abuse. Thank you to the Carlsbad Community Foundation for the Chevron Catalyst grant that helped us fill in the gaps of learning components needed for youth participating in this program. We were able to partner with Loving Schools to pilot this program in the Spring and in the Fall, we were able to start a new partnership with CASA and CYFD-CPS to offer virtual programming to youth in State’s custody. Through this opportunity of piloting evidence-based programming we were able to obtain a five-year Federal Grant for 1.5 million dollars! **SAMHSA’s SPF-Partnerships for Success** grant allows us to increase substance abuse prevention infrastructure and capacity to collect and use local data to assess needs and readiness, develop a data-driven strategic plan and implement evidence-based substance abuse prevention approaches to reduce underage drinking, e-cigarette use among youth and young adults, inclusive of marijuana, increase the age of initiation of alcohol, tobacco and marijuana use among youth and reduce behavioral health disparities in Eddy County, particularly related to access, use and outcomes of service. Development of media campaigns were promoted through social media and billboards.

SAMHSA STOP ACT-Carlsbad Youth Sober Truth is a five-year \$200,000.00 Federal grant providing evidence-based curriculum focusing on substance abuse prevention through the All-Stars curriculum to 6th grade youth. 2020 was our first year to implement this grant and we

were able to reach 74 youth in the Spring semester and in the Fall semester we graduated 24 through virtual learning. We were able to adapt this program virtually and keep them engaged. This grant allows us to expand evidence-based prevention initiatives to prevent and reduce alcohol use among youth ages 12-20. A youth council will be developed to lead community education and media messages for their peers as well as parents and other adults in the community. Evidence-based curriculum is implemented with sixth grade youth to establish positive norms and personal commitments to avoid risky behaviors (including substance use), promote bonding to the school and peer group, and build positive parent/adult connections.

TOP (Teen Outreach Program) is a four-year \$200,600.00 State grant. This 9-month Wyman TOP evidence-based unintended teen pregnancy prevention program is provided to 8th grade youth. Youth in the program participate in classes that provide evidence-based curriculum and youth also are required to complete Community Service-Learning projects, equaling 120 hours, that is meaningful services in which a teen feels an emotional connection with his or her efforts. Through this grant, youth who complete the program are provided a \$200 stipend. This year, 16 youth graduated the program in the Spring semester and 11 are currently enrolled and participating in the program since the beginning of the Fall semester. Multiple videos were made for Community Service-Learning projects that were positive messaging to the community where youth read poems, wrote letters to first responders, made friendship rocks that were randomly placed in their neighborhood, and developed a positive message poster to put up in their individual neighborhoods.

Teen Court of Eddy County is an alternative sentencing program for youth with a budget of \$71,112.00 annually. This program has been sustainable in person and then virtually with the funding provided by the City of Carlsbad, County of Eddy and United Way. Julie Fuentes became the new Teen Court Program Manager and Samantha Smith as the Program Assistant this year. Hannah Kim has been an active volunteer youth attorney for the past several years and now is on staff. Before April, Teen Court provided in person services to 36 youth in the community in which 180 service-learning hours were completed in the community and 37 jury nights served. During that time 37 cases were completed successfully and 7 returned incomplete. During the months of April through October, Teen Court provided one in person training and six virtual trainings/meetings with active and new volunteer youth attorneys. During those months, Teen Court was able to develop a systematic approach to provide alternative sentencing to defendants through virtual court hearings. This was very challenging to maintain the youth attorneys' interest over several months of being unable to hold court and to obtain referrals from the courts and Juvenile Probation Office, due to lack of referrals and system in place. Since November, Teen Court was able to hold three court hearings serving four defendants. There has been one completion, one returned and two cases are still currently active. Alternative sentences were given that could be accomplished during COVID-19 State Restrictions. We are very proud of how well this program has sustained their efforts over the months and look forward to expanding services after restrictions are lifted.

OSAP (Office of Substance Abuse Prevention) is an annual \$109,825.00 State grant that the Coalition has maintained since 2011. This grant is designed to develop community-based programming to increase enforcement efforts of existing underage drinking laws by law enforcement, encourage improving alcohol-tobacco-other drug policies at schools, and

educate the community on the benefits of reducing cost of problems associated with alcohol use. The grant also focuses on reducing prescription painkiller misuse and abuse through social access by educating parents and elderly on the importance of safe storage and disposal of prescription medications and provide pharmacies with resources to share with the community on the importance of safe storage and disposal. New initiatives were established through the Covid-19 restrictions, we were able to do information dissemination on safe storage and disposal of prescription medication through the Mesa Senior Center newsletter, flyers distributed by Meals on Wheels, participated in the radio Community Forum with the DWI program to discuss initiatives, provided about 4,000 bag tags to be put on prescriptions from the pharmacy and brochures, participated in Queen Up the Guads in place of Neighborhood Night Out, and developed social media and billboard campaigns. Synar is a part of the grant that provides merchant education to 137 tobacco retailers on the new laws regarding tobacco sells.

Strategies for Success Youth Survey Results

FY2020

Carlsbad Independent School District

The Strategies for Success (SFS) survey was collected online from middle and high school students across the Carlsbad Independent School District in the fall of 2019. **A total of 1,352 middle school students completed the SFS survey and 1,324 high school students completed the survey.** High School data include all students from Carlsbad High School, Early College High School, and Eddy Alternative School. Questions on the SFS are used to monitor and measure the Carlsbad Community Anti-Drug and Gang Coalition's outcomes related to youth substance use, access to alcohol and other drugs, and perceptions of risk for using substances in the community and school. In addition to monitoring outcomes, the data help the community plan the most effective and needed prevention services.

Highlights from FY 2020

Both Middle and High School

- Increases occurred in alcohol use and binge drinking since last year. Students are most likely to report drinking at someone else's home or at their own home.
- Students are reporting concerning levels of mental distress and suicide ideation.
- Students have a slightly lower perception that they will get caught drinking alcohol on campus than last year.
- Marijuana use on school campus increased.
- + Students perceived harm associated with using e-cigs increased.

Middle School

- Middle school students report decreases in getting alcohol from adult family members.

- Increases in e-cigarette use among middle school students from 10.6% in 2018 to 26.4% in 2020 is concerning.
- Middle school students report increases in being offered or sold illegal drugs and prescription drugs on campus.
- Middle school students report increases in getting alcohol from parties and unrelated adults.

High School

- + Decreases in e-cigarette use and regular cigarette use among high school students is encouraging.
- + Decreases reported for being offered or sold prescription drugs on campus.
- High schoolers report increases in using prescription painkillers to get high.

Carlsbad Community Anti-Drug and Gang Coalition New Mexico Community Survey Highlights 2020

New Mexico Community Surveys (NMCS) were collected from early March to mid-May 2020 by the Carlsbad Community Anti-Drug and Gang Coalition. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, in-person data collection was not permitted. A total of 413 eligible surveys were collected from Eddy County residents online, using promotion on Facebook and other websites.

The NMCS asks about alcohol and prescription drug use, community attitudes and perceptions, and sources of alcohol and prescription painkillers. Data are used to plan and evaluate initiatives funded by the Office of Substance Abuse Prevention, DWI, and other community agencies and funding sources. The data in this report compares the 2019 results to previous year's results for key indicators related reducing underage drinking and prescription pain killer overdoses.

2020 Highlights

Prescription Painkiller Outcomes

- + Decreases occurred for receiving painkillers in the past year, current painkiller use for any reason, and painkiller use to get high.
- + Perceived risk of harm associated with misusing painkillers increased this year.
- + There was a decrease (desired direction) in respondents reporting using painkillers to cope with stress or anxiety and to help them sleep.
- + There was an increase in reported locking of prescription painkillers among adults and parents.
- + Pharmacy staff are more likely to have talked to patients about safe storage and about the risks of Rx painkiller use.
- Eddy County has experienced increases in overall drug overdose deaths

as well as prescription drug overdoses.

Alcohol Outcomes

- + Decreases occurred for current drinking and binge drinking among adults.
- + Binge drinking decreased for 18-25-year-olds,
- + Reductions occurred for adults and parent providing alcohol to minors and increases in saying it is “never ok” to provide alcohol to minors.
- + There was an increase in believing police will break up parties where underage drinking is taking place.
- Current drinking increased (only less than one percentage point) for 18-25-year-olds.
- There was a slight decrease in likelihood that police will stop you for drinking and driving.

Media Campaigns

**YOU CAN HELP
PREVENT
RX DRUG
ABUSE!**

- 1 LOCK IT UP**
- 2 MONITOR IT**
- 3 DROP IT OFF**

**DROP OFF UNUSED MEDS
AT A LOCAL DROP BOX:**

**Police Department
Walgreens Pharmacy**

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:



LOCK UP ALL ALCOHOL.
REPORT UNDERAGE PARTIES.
SAVE LIVES.

CARLSBAD COMMUNITY ANTI-DRUG/GANG
COALITION



IS
TEAMING
UP WITH



Join us:

**GUADALUPE RANGER DISTRICT ADMIN SITE
3366 QUEENS HIGHWAY
OCTOBER 3RD @8:00AM**

YOU ^{CAN HELP} PREVENT RX DRUG ABUSE!

- 1 LOCK IT UP
- 2 MONITOR IT
- 3 DROP IT OFF

DISPOSE OF UNUSED
 MEDICATION IN THE FREE
 DROP BOX INSIDE THE
 CARLSBAD POLICE
 DEPARTMENT



Store your medications in a
 locked box or cabinet.



Protect our water supply.
 Do NOT flush old medications!



ACTION

Parents in

AVAILABLE NOW:

UNIT 1: WELCOME
 PARENT'S GUIDE TO PREVENTION

UNIT 2: MENTAL HEALTH
 COPING WITH A PANDEMIC

UNIT 3: PRESCRIPTION MEDS
 KEEPING OUR YOUTH SAFE

This year we have expanded our Parents in Action initiative to virtual online trainings! This can be found on our Facebook page or through our website.

TRAININGS

This year has given our organization the opportunity to attend several online trainings. Cumulatively we have completed over 300 hours of Continuing Education Units!