

Executive Summary

2010-2015 Mid-South Strategic Prevention Plan

Mid-South Strategic Planning History

Three major outcomes resulted from the previous 2005-2009 Mid-South Strategic Prevention Plan:

1. Established nine structured County Substance Abuse Coalitions that have the capacity to identify needs, establish priorities, strategically plan, and allocate resources.
2. Established data collection mechanisms at multiple levels to assist in the completion of regional and local substance abuse needs assessments and the identification of priority problem areas.
3. Solidified regional and local support, comprehension, and buy-in surrounding SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) process.

The Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)

The SPF is a capacity building process for demonstrating and documenting outcomes and is designed to impact population level change. The five steps that comprise the Strategic Prevention Framework will enable communities region-wide to build the infrastructure necessary for effective and sustainable prevention. Cultural competence and sustainability must also be infused within the Strategic Prevention Framework five steps, as visually represented in the symbol below.

The SPF is a public health approach to prevent and reduce substance-related problems and/or consequences and involves five specific steps:

1. **Needs Assessment:** profile population needs, resources, and readiness to address needs and gaps
2. **Capacity Building:** mobilize and/or build capacity to address those needs
3. **Strategic Planning:** develop a comprehensive strategic plan
4. **Implementation:** implement evidence-based prevention programs, policies, and practices
5. **Evaluation:** monitor, evaluate, sustain, and improve or replace those strategies that fail



Introduction to the 2010-2015 Mid-South Strategic Prevention Plan

The major stakeholders in the planning and development of the 2010-2015 Mid-South Strategic Prevention Plan include: The Mid-South Board of Directors, The Regional Epidemiological Workgroup (REW), The Regional Planning Collaborative (RPC), and the nine county substance abuse coalitions operating within the Mid-South region. Prior to the completion of this strategic prevention plan, the county substance abuse coalitions were asked to sign memorandums of understanding (MOU's) with Mid-South, further solidifying the partnerships that have been formed between the nine counties and Mid-South via the original 2005-2009 Mid-South Strategic Prevention Plan. These MOU's outline the expectations that Mid-South has of the coalitions, as well as the expectations that the coalitions have of Mid-South.

Mid-South 2010-2015 Goal Statements

The goal statements that are included in the 2010-2015 Mid-South Strategic Prevention Plan are based on problem statements developed by Mid-South and derived from several years of regional needs assessments and data analysis. The first goal statement involves the continued emphasis on building and sustaining regional and local capacity to institutionalize the Strategic Prevention Framework. The three additional goal statements encompass the priority substance abuse consequence areas that are being targeted by the region and are identified below.

Goal Statements:

- 1. Capacity Building:** Counties will continue to build infrastructure to sustain substance abuse prevention in communities and institutionalize the SPF five steps.
- 2. Alcohol:** To reduce alcohol involved traffic fatalities, injuries, and crashes due to the use/misuse of alcohol by youth and adults in the Mid-South region.
- 3. Tobacco:** To reduce tobacco related death due to tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke by youth and adults in the Mid-South region.
- 4. Prescription Drugs:** To reduce poisonings and deaths due to over-the-counter (OTC) and prescription drug misuse and abuse by youth and adults in the Mid-South region.

Additional Sections

Outcome Evaluation Monitoring Tool: Since 2008, Mid-South has maintained a working partnership with MSU's University Outreach and Engagement, Community Evaluation and Research Center. This partnership began with the development of a simple Needs Assessment Toolkit and will expand into a comprehensive and enhanced Needs Assessment and Outcome Evaluation Monitoring Tool that will be completed by July 2010. This data indicator monitoring tool will aid in tracking major targeted behavioral outcomes that are outlined in the 2010-2015 Mid-South Strategic Prevention Plan and assist the region in evaluating our contributions to reducing substance use, abuse, and the related consequences.

Regional Capacity Assessment: The Regional Planning Collaborative (RPC) met to address four key questions surrounding the major strengths and weaknesses of the Mid-South region as a whole, as well as opportunities and challenges the region may encounter in the implementation of the 2010-2015 Mid-South Strategic Prevention Plan. The RPC also identified some major systemic objectives to be focused on and addressed in the future.

External Resources: The 2010-2015 Mid-South Strategic Prevention Plan concludes with a comprehensive list of major regional, state, and national resources that are available to all who enter into the work of building and maintaining community systems of prevention.

THE DATA...

ALCOHOL

Between the years of 2003 to 2007, there was an average of 30 alcohol involved fatal crashes per year in the Mid-South region. During that same timeframe, there was an average of 516 alcohol involved injury and 1262 alcohol involved crashes per year in the Mid-South region.

TOBACCO

In 2007, there were a total of 7,387 deaths in the Mid-South region, with 1,089 of those deaths, or 14.7%, directly linked to tobacco use. There were also 144 deaths to non-smokers in the Mid-South region due to secondhand smoke exposure.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Between the years of 1999-2004, research regarding deaths in the U.S. due to poisonings shows that nearly all of such deaths are attributed to drugs. Most drug poisonings result from the abuse of prescription and illegal drugs. Additional data and analysis is needed surrounding this growing trend, although the data that is available speaks volumes.