

## **Strategic Prevention Enhancement Grant**

In 2011, the Division on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse was awarded a Strategic Prevention Enhancement (SPE) Grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). The goal of this one year planning grant is to enhance infrastructure to:

- Build emotional health
- Prevent or delay and mitigate the symptoms and complications of substance abuse and mental illness in the following targeted areas:
  - alcohol misuse/abuse
  - prescription misuse/abuse and
  - prevention of suicide in high risk populations

The main purpose of the SPE is to incorporate the Strategic Planning Framework (SPF) model to develop a five-year, comprehensive strategic prevention plan to further develop service coordination, community partnerships, and multi-agency collaboration to better provide substance abuse prevention services. Projects under this grant include:

- ***Behavioral Health Workforce Capacity Assessment.*** Through a combination of a survey and regional focus groups, this comprehensive behavioral health workforce assessment will give a more complete, accurate picture of the current workforce and its future needs. Data gathered will be incorporated into planning for enhancing the workforce.
- ***Regional Data and Planning Teams.*** These teams have been formed in each of the six new substance abuse regions and mirror the work of the State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup at the regional level. These teams are comprised of multiple partnerships and are responsible for coordinating plans and gathering and disseminating data at the local and regional levels.
- ***Medical Education Team.*** This team has been formed in partnership with the West Virginia Medical Professional's Health Program. The purpose of this team is to utilize physicians to help further educate other physicians in best practices and on the topics of substance abuse prevention, including areas such as suicide, prescription drug abuse, drug exposed pregnancies, youth alcohol use, and adult alcohol abuse.

For questions about this grant program, feel free to contact our Research Specialist:

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