

KY-ASAP: THE STRATEGIC PLAN

KY-ASAP is required by KRS 15A.342 (formerly codified as KRS 12.332) (1) to “develop a strategic plan to reduce the prevalence of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use among the youth and adult populations in Kentucky.” The legislature also charged KY-ASAP to make policy recommendations related to both the implementation of the strategy as well as achieve related outcomes. Specific agency functions are referenced throughout this document.

VISION

A Commonwealth of healthy communities free of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use/abuse and related consequences.

MISSION

To promote the reduction of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use/abuse through the implementation of comprehensive collaborations and strategies.

SCOPE OF THE STRATEGY

The strategy to be developed by KY-ASAP is legislatively mandated to address youth and adult substance abuse, treatment and prevention needs.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE STRATEGY

The KY-ASAP state board represents many agencies and organizations that play key roles in programming for substance abuse prevention, treatment and enforcement at state and local levels.

EVIDENCE-BASED ACCOUNTABILITY

Evidence-based substance abuse policy is based on researched findings regarding which prevention and treatment approaches are most effective. The strategy calls for the development of methods for identifying and applying the most effective approaches to reduce substance abuse and related problems. Efficient mechanisms for analyzing, disseminating and applying evidence-based knowledge are keys to the success of the strategy.

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Successfully reducing problems related to substance abuse in the Commonwealth involves a multi-faceted approach. The legislative mandate to extend the strategy to encompass youth, adults, prevention and treatment recognizes the need for comprehensive efforts. Many factors contribute to the development of substance abuse problems. The strategy must address both supply and demand and meet the needs of the general public as well as high-risk groups. Education, prevention, public policy initiatives, law enforcement and a range of recovery opportunities are some of the programmatic approaches which must be coordinated into a comprehensive system.

LONG-TERM COMMITMENT

The strategy acknowledges substance abuse is a public health issue that must address the chronicity, co-morbidity and relapse dynamic of the illness. The plan focuses on the development of a sustainable infrastructure including prevention, treatment and enforcement that can be evaluated and proven effective. Further, the plan commits to utilizing the Strategic Prevention Framework as the outline for implementing prevention initiatives.

COLLABORATIVE INTEGRITY

The strategy suggests many agencies and organizations must work together to build a sound infrastructure for substance abuse prevention and treatment. This can happen only through intensive collaboration. KY-ASAP has begun the needed collaboration to address this concept. The plan further outlines mechanisms for continuing collaboration among state, local and community stakeholders.

CORE VALUES OF THE STRATEGY

Building on the recommendations of the 2004 Drug Summit Assessment, the previous KY-ASAP strategic plan and community needs assessments, the strategy has developed core values, goals, objectives and activities. These core values are:

- accountability
- collaboration
- commitment
- communication
- integrity

The goals of the strategic plan incorporate core values from the basic components of the strategy. The state board also endorsed Healthy Kentuckians 2010, Commonwealth Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention and work of the HB 843 Commission on Service and Supports for Individuals with Mental Illness, Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Disorders and Dual Diagnoses as a basic set of values to guide the strategy.

THE STRATEGIC PLAN

The KY-ASAP strategic plan provides a basic outline for strengthening an evidence-based prevention and best practice treatment system in the Commonwealth. The four goals will be the focus of state planning efforts and policy decisions for the future. Specific action plans related to each goal, however, will evolve and change as an effective prevention and treatment planning infrastructure continues to strengthen.

Goal 1: To maintain, expand and improve the system for planning, funding and evaluating prevention and treatment strategies while coordinating the activities of all state agencies and organizations involved.

Objective 1.1 Encourage access to the Data Warehouse to support needs assessment and planning at state and community levels (ongoing)

Activity 1.1.1: Review ongoing compilation of data collected by various commissions and councils

Activity 1.1.2: Identify data gaps and evaluate strategies to allow the information to be quickly accessed and utilized at local and state levels

Activity 1.1.3: Create a plan to publicize/endorse the Data Warehouse for use by other entities and the public

Activity 1.1.4: Review work of the Strategic Prevention Framework Epidemiology Workgroup

Objective 1.2 Identify needs and gaps in services (ongoing)

- Activity 1.2.1: Consult with existing contractors and Epidemiology Workgroup to review existing data to determine needs and gaps
- Activity 1.2.2: Review and update the alcohol, tobacco and other drug indicators for the Healthy Kentuckians 2010 objectives, based on the most up-to-date data available
- Activity 1.2.3: Assure each member of the KY-ASAP state board has a management plan in place that will reduce barriers to services and funding
- Activity 1.2.4: Assure accountability for expenditures and performance targeted towards meeting needs and filling in service gaps
- Activity 1.2.5: Reassess needs and gaps in service on an annual basis

Objective 1.3

Assure effective evaluation procedures of outcomes and performance indicators in terms of measurable changes in the use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs for prevention and treatment strategies (ongoing)

- Activity 1.3.1: KY-ASAP local boards will select a core set of outcomes and indicators, for review by the KY-ASAP state board and implementation by its members
- Activity 1.3.2: The Department of Public Health and KY-ASAP local boards will select tobacco cessation core set of outcomes and indicators, for review by the KY-ASAP state board and implementation by its members

Activity 1.3.3: The Cabinet for Health Services and the HB 843 Commission will work collaboratively to share outcome and performance indicators with KY-ASAP state board

Activity 1.3.4: Assure coordination of evaluation procedures across stakeholders

Objective 1.4 *Establish procedures to use existing funds to leverage additional resources to support effective prevention and treatment strategies (ongoing)*

Activity 1.4.1: KY-ASAP state board members will assure each member has a management plan in place to maximize resources; review for best practices and stretch existing dollars for substance abuse issues

Activity 1.4.2: Assure KY-ASAP board agencies and organizations support evidence-based prevention strategies

Activity 1.4.3: Assure KY-ASAP board agencies and/or organizations support best or promising practice treatment strategies

Activity 1.4.4: Work with other commissions, councils and agencies to leverage additional funds to meet unmet needs for alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention or treatment services

Goal 2: To utilize evidence-based findings and best practices as a foundation for effective planning and funding of prevention and treatment strategies.

Objective 2.1 Provide a mechanism for disseminating best and evidence-based strategies for prevention and treatment (ongoing)

Activity 2.1.1: The KY-ASAP state board will work with commissions and other councils to develop the mechanism dissemination of best practices information for prevention and treatment

Activity 2.1.2: Conduct community forums, utilizing lessons learned by the Strategic Prevention Framework – State Incentive Grant to provide information and education to local communities about substance abuse and related issues

Goal 3: To utilize the strategic prevention framework and an appropriate continuum of care for treatment.

Objective 3.1 Reduce risk factors and increase protective factors (ongoing)

Activity 3.1.1: Member agencies and organizations will assist communities to deliver clear and consistent messages regarding consequences of youth use/abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs

Activity 3.1.2 Encourage and train local boards to use the SPF process in defining needs and allocating resources

Objective 3.2 Encourage policies and practices that reduce both inappropriate accesses to and abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ongoing)

Activity 3.2.1: Incorporate HB 843 Commission recommendations as appropriate for improving substance abuse treatment services

Activity 3.2.2: Consult with the law enforcement community to support the most effective methods of enforcement of substance abuse

Goal 4: Encourage cultural competence, diverse and inclusive involvement in prevention and treatment strategies.

Objective 4.1 Increase government/private sector collaborative efforts at state and local levels (ongoing)

Activity 4.1.1: Work with institutions of higher education and the Department for Workforce Investment to solicit their involvement in prevention and treatment efforts

Activity 4.1.2: Maintain linkages with the Department of Agriculture, the Transportation Cabinet and the Governor's Office for Local Government that strengthen the work at state and local levels

Objective 4.2 Provide guidance and support for state and local involvement through a network of prevention and treatment professionals (ongoing)

Activity 4.2.1: Work with the existing organized groups of prevention and treatment professionals to facilitate dialogue around prevention and treatment

Objective 4.3 Support community coalitions (ongoing)

Activity 4.3.1: Provide guidance and technical assistance to existing local boards

Activity 4.3.2 Provide guidance and technical assistance to developing boards