

Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

Coalition Mission

The Morton Coalition for Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention (Morton Up!) strives to create a community invested in providing positive role models, diverse educational opportunities, and pro-social activities that promote confidence, self-esteem, integrity, and respect in youth, resulting in healthy adults.

Coalition Coordinator
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Morton UP!

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Morton Community Coalition



About the Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI):

CPWI is a partnership of state agencies, counties, schools and local prevention coalitions supporting communities in preventing alcohol and other drug abuse and its negative consequences. Our highest priority is to reduce underage drinking and marijuana use among 8th and 10th grade students. By providing evidence-based practices and promoting the positive changes in communities, we can build healthier communities.

About the Coalition: Communities and Schools Working Together

Morton was selected to participate in cohort three of the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI). The Morton Up! Coalition was formed through this initiative in July 2013. The Coalition has successfully coordinated a variety of events that support ongoing services to prevent and reduce underage drinking and other youth substances. These efforts have included:

- Community dinner with presenters and discussion panel on marijuana and alcohol use.
- Town hall meetings.
- Key leader orientation.
- Community trainings and events.
- Coalition meetings.

The sectors currently represented in the coalition include: a youth serving agency, faith-based, civic/volunteer group, and higher education. One common challenge coalitions face are recruitment and retention of members. This will be a focus of the coalition this upcoming year. We encourage anyone who would like to participate to contact the coalition.

Other Contacts

Student Assistance Program Specialist

ESD 113

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Morton School P/I Specialist:

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CPWI is funded by:



Transforming lives

For more information about CPWI visit

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/dapreventionservices.shtml>



About Our Community

The City of Morton is located in the heart of Lewis County and is surrounded by forests and rivers. There are many opportunities for hunting, camping, fishing, and hiking. The city is less than one square mile in area, but the school district covers 248 square miles. The 2010 census indicates the 1,126 residents are predominantly Caucasian (94%), with 2% Hispanic or Latino, and 4% of citizens identifying as African American, Native American, Asian, and other. The area lacks in ethnic diversity, but is varied in socioeconomic status. In 2010, 14% of the population was below the poverty threshold. The median income is \$42,567. In 2012, 25% of the residents received food stamps.

Morton is a rural community and faces challenges with providing resources and community services due to the distance from a larger city and its lack of accessibility. Despite the rural zoning, Morton has developed a thriving art community which includes the local children's theater and the Fire Mountain Arts Council. Another strength of this small community is the support from the local Cispus/AmeriCorps program. These dedicated AmeriCorps volunteers are seen throughout the community in many programs that include managing the local teen center, theater programs, after school programs, and volunteering within the school.

Goals for the Morton Up! Coalition

- Increasing community connectedness through training, coalition meetings, and community events.
- Reducing youth access to alcohol while increasing commitment to school and improving family management through parenting and family education.
- Increasing youth perception of risk with environmental awareness campaign.
- Decreasing favorable attitudes among students with implementation of Project Success among 7th graders in the school.

The Coalition will evaluate progress through annual community surveys, coalition assessment tools, Healthy Youth Survey, and Project Success pre and post surveys.