

Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative

Partners for Healthy Communities

OPA Coalition Mission:
“To increase the health and well-being of youth, parents and community of the Stevenson-Carson School District by reducing and preventing drug and alcohol use through education, intervention and outreach”.



ONE FOR ALL. ALL FOR ONE.

Coalition Coordinator

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ONE PREVENTION ALLIANCE

Stevenson



Columbia River Gorge at Cape Horn– Southern Border of Skamania County

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 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

One Prevention Alliance began as a Community Mobilization Against Substance Abuse (CMASA) advisory board in 1996. This group was created to identify risk and protective factors that lead to substance abuse, as well as efforts to decrease substance abuse within our community.

The board accomplished these initial goals by supporting school and community-based youth groups in our county and through state tobacco and substance abuse prevention funding. The group initially included local law enforcement, Stevenson-Carson school district staff, a county commissioner, juvenile justice, parents and community members who were concerned about the increase in alcohol and other drug use among our youth.

OPA members represent 12 sectors in our community: law enforcement, local government, health care, treatment, faith based groups, education, volunteer Groups, youth organizations, parents, youth, business and media.

Other Contacts

Student Assistance Program 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](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dbhr/dapreventionservices.shtml)



About Our Community:

History

Stevenson is in Skamania County, which was established in 1854 in southwest Washington. Over 86% of the county is within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest.

People living in Skamania County enjoy many recreational activities and a safe, small-town feel. Four Native American tribes continue to retain many cultural sites throughout Skamania County.

For over a century, Skamania County thrived economically due to logging and the abundance of other natural resources. However, logging ceased in the 1980's and the community lost its identity. While income from tourism has helped the local economy, the community still struggles to define itself. This includes young people who question their value and role in the community.

Skamania County's population is 92.8% White, 5.0% Hispanic or Latino, 1.6% American Indian and Alaska Native, and 0.4% African American. About 25% are age 19 or younger, and 15% are 65 and older. The population density is 6.73 per square mile. The median household income is \$48,704 and 9.4% of county residents live below the poverty level.

Challenges and Strengths

Our greatest challenge is the legal use of recreational marijuana for adults, and the impact this will have on our community. One of OPA's most prominent strengths is that many of our members have been part of the coalition since it began in 1996.

About Prevention Programs in our Community

- **Goals & Strategies:** Decrease youth access to alcohol and other drugs; increase perception that youth will get caught if they use and that there will be consequences applied; and change community norms about underage drinking, marijuana use and prescription drug abuse
- **Programs/Who Will Be Served:** All Stars, retailer compliance checks, alcohol purchase surveys, Second Step, Strengthening Families. All school district 5th & 6th grade students will be served.
- **How results will be measured and reported:** pre/post tests and statistics from law enforcement.