

## **WV Substance Abuse Prevention Services**

In the northern panhandle of West Virginia, Youth Services System, Inc. serves as the WV Department of Health and Human Resources Bureau for Behavioral Health & Health Facilities Region 1 Substance Abuse Prevention Services Lead Organization.

The Northern Panhandle Prevention Consortium unites community substance abuse prevention coalitions in the five counties of the northern panhandle to collectively strengthen local efforts. Consortium membership consists of Brooke and Hancock Advocates for Substance Abuse Prevention, the Ohio County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, Marshall County Tobacco & Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition and the Wetzel County Coalition Against Drug Abuse.

## **The Governor's Regional Substance Abuse Task Force**

Substance abuse threatens West Virginia's families, workforce, and communities. Community members know their towns and neighbors best. They understand what is at the root of their particular problem. That is why Governor Earl Ray Tomblin formed the Governor's Advisory Council on Substance Abuse and the six regional task forces. This is the first step in a long-term action plan. By bringing a diverse group of individuals together to share ideas and develop customized plans of action, we have taken the first step to saving our communities. The Northern Panhandle Prevention Consortium staff and membership assist in the coordination and facilitation of the Region 1 task force meetings.

## **Regional Data & Planning Team**

The Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities Substance Abuse Prevention Services Lead Organizations from across the state facilitate Regional Data & Planning Team meetings. Region 1 Data and Planning Team members actively participate in the **Strategic Prevention Framework** process. Members assess local conditions, identify behavioral health resources and determine service gaps across the continuum. Northern Panhandle community population impact data is collected, compiled and disseminated.

## **Synar Compliance Inspections**

Federally-mandated tobacco compliance inspections are implemented by the West Virginia State Police and Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities Substance Abuse Prevention Services Lead Organizations throughout the state in order to monitor compliance.

Retailers in West Virginia receive See Red? education material, funded by Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment block grant funding, that includes point of sale print material to prompt employees to always ask for ID when selling tobacco products. Employees are trained that a red background on a license or non-operator ID is a red flag to carefully look at the date of birth.

## **Additional Regional Efforts**

- Yearly Media Campaigns
- Permanent Prescription Lock Boxes Throughout Each County
- Substance Exposed Pregnancy Prevention Efforts
- Roundtable Discussions, Town Halls and Forums
- Community Assessments, Surveys and Data Collection
- Trainings, Conferences & Workshops