

Drug Awareness Resources and Supports for Schools

As each school and county struggles with understanding and finding the resources to support students and their families, the West Virginia Board of Education and Department of Education (WVDE) are teaming up with Dr. Rahul Gupta and his experts at the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (WVDHHR) to support schools and local communities. Dr. Gupta presented [Opioids: A Crisis in Evolution](#) to the State Board on August 9, 2017. A new law ([House Bill 2620](#)) has established the Office of Drug Control Policy within WVDHHR. The office will support school-based K-12 comprehensive drug awareness and prevention programs which are required by [House Bill 2195](#) to start in public schools no later than 2018-19 school year.

The WVDE and WVDHHR continue to partner to support WV public schools by developing a list of **comprehensive drug awareness resources** to assist schools. Please see the available resources below while noting this is not an all-inclusive list.

- 2017 Virtual Field Trip on Demand, the [On the Frontlines of the Opioid Epidemic: A Community Fighting Back](#) visited Huntington, West Virginia — a typical American community that has been greatly impacted by the opioid epidemic — to hear the powerful personal stories from the bravest teens and change makers in the city. Students will learn how opioids have affected their lives, how they are using their experiences to improve the city, and ways your students could make a positive impact on their own communities.
- The [1-844-Help4WV toll free number](#) and [website](#) for linkage to local resources. The WVDE will work with WVDHHR to offer this information in posters and paper format for schools to share with students and parents.
- Free [Mental Health First Aid training](#) for staff including funding to cover the cost of substitutes. This is part of the WVDE-Project AWARE grant which Marshall University-Autism Training Center provides direct management and oversight. Contact Diana Bailey-Miller to schedule a class at baileymiller@marshall.edu or call (304) 695-1155.
- The [WVDHHR-Office of Children, Youth and Families website](#) to find resources and supports including [Partnership for Success contacts](#). The Partnership for Success is a multi-year project to reduce underage drinking and the misuse of prescription drugs among youth in 12 West Virginia counties.
- The [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#) has information on drug abuse including fact sheets and educational information on opiates, the opioid crisis, naloxone, etc.
- [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#) has many [resources](#) related to drug abuse.
- [High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas](#) (HIDTA) program is a federal program administered by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, designed to provide resources to federal, state, local, and tribal agencies to coordinate activities to address drug trafficking in specifically designated areas of the country. Chad Napier is the West Virginia representative in the Washington/Baltimore HIDTA area.

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- [The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities. The website has many resources.
- The [DEA 360 Strategy website](#) offers free resources and community education presentations to address heroin and other opioid.
- The [Partnership for Drug-Free Kids](#) also provides support and resources to families with children who are substance users.
- The Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) documentary called [Chasing the Dragon](#).
- [Principles of Addiction](#) is a free digital course for high school students from EVERFI.
- [Operation Prevention](#) provides free classroom resources for elementary, middle and high schools from the DEA and Discovery Education.
- **Prevention Lead Organizations (PLOs).** WVDHHR [Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities](#) (BBHFF) funds six regional prevention leaders who, with local coalitions, do prevention planning and programing. Please find the list of [WVDHHR regional evidence-based prevention programs](#) (EBPs) with a description of each in the [NREPP Substance Use Legendary](#) which are currently offered to WV public schools, as well as a list of more EBPs listed on the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices ([NREPP](#)).

The six Prevention Lead Organizations are:

- **Region 1 (Brooke, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio, Wetzel)**-- Lori Bumba, Youth Services System, (304) 233-2045 or lori.impactov@gmail.com
- **Region 2 (Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Morgan, Mineral, Pendleton)**-- Paige Mathias, Potomac Highlands Guild) paigem@potomachighlandsguild.com
- **Region 3 (Calhoun, Jackson, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wirt, Wood)**-- Shelly Mize, Westbrook Health Services, smize@westbrookhealth.com
- **Region 4 (Barbour, Braxton, Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison, Lewis, Marion, Monongalia, Preston, Randolph, Taylor, Tucker, Upshur)**-- Elizabeth Shahan, Harrison County Family Resource Network, (304) 423-5049 or harrisoncountyfrn@gmail.com
- **Region 5 (Boone, Cabell, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln, Mason, Mingo, Putnam, Wayne)**-- Tim White, Pretera Center, (304) 751-6251 or Tim.White@pretera.org
- **Region 6 (Fayette, Greenbrier, McDowell, Mercer, Monroe, Nicholas, Pocahontas, Raleigh, Summers, Webster, Wyoming)**-- Greg Puckett, Community Connections, (304) 913-4956 or drugfree@strongcommunities.org.

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- **Expanded School Mental Health (ESMH) sites.** Currently, WVDHHR-BBHFF supports 40 ESMH schools in 20 counties. There is a state [ESMH Steering Team](#) that includes BBHFF's ESMH sites and Project AWARE. ESMH uses a three-tier model with a full continuum of prevention, early intervention, and treatment services for students. They use EBPs, including some prevention programs (Tiers 1 and 2).
- **Regional Youth Service Centers (RYSCs).** The Regional Youth Service Centers are designed to serve adolescents and young adults aged 12-24. They are centers of excellence that coordinate a spectrum of community-based services to provide meaningful partnerships with families and youth with the goal of improving a youth's functioning in the home, school, and community. These centers provide an array of services and supports to include engagement through community-based and outpatient treatment and recovery. They also hold quarterly stakeholder meetings to increase community and system collaboration in each region. They provide community and workforce education and awareness on mental health and substance use issues. There are six Regional Youth Service Centers, one per each WVDHHR-BBHFF region:

Region 1—[Youth Services System](#)

Region 2—[Potomac Highlands Guild](#)

Region 3—[Westbrook Health Services](#)

Region 4—[United Summit Center](#)

Region 5—[Prestera Center](#)

Region 6—[FMRS](#).

- **Regional Suicide Intervention Specialists.** Affiliated with each Regional Youth Service Center is a Youth Suicide Intervention Specialist. Barri Faucett of [Prevent Suicide WV](#) coordinates the specialists.
- **[Children's Clinical Outreach Services Liaisons](#).** There is a masters-level Children's Liaison at each of 13 comprehensive behavioral health centers across the state. Most of their time is spent doing outreach, collaboration, and clinical consultation in their communities.
- WVDHHR-BBHFF also provides support to **Trauma Informed Elementary Schools (T.I.E.S.)** through Crittenton Services in 11 elementary schools in Hancock, Ohio, Tyler, and Wood Counties.
- The [West Virginia Bureau for Behavioral Health and Health Facilities](#), Office of Children, Youth and Families administers programs to promote the behavioral health of children and youths in West Virginia communities through universal prevention and individualized services for mental health, substance use, and intellectual and developmental disabilities.