

DRUG FREE ST. LUCIE

A Network of the Roundtable of St. Lucie County



Mission

To cultivate a community that supports a substance free lifestyle and well-being in youth through advocacy and community collaboration.

Our Vision

A healthy, vibrant community that is substance free.

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Working for a safe, healthy, and drug free St. Lucie County

SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework

The DFC initiative utilizes the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service's Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The SPF's five elements assist coalitions in developing the infrastructure needed for community-based, public health approaches leading to effective and sustainable reductions in alcohol, tobacco and other drug (ATOD) use and abuse.

The Five Elements shown:

Assessment: Collect data to define problems, resources and readiness within a geographic area to address needs and gaps. **Capacity:** Mobilize and/or build capacity within a geographic area to address needs. **Planning:** Develop a comprehensive strategic plan that includes policies, programs and practices creating a logical, data-driven plan to address problems identified in assessment. **Implementation:** Implement evidence-based prevention programs, policies, and practices. **Evaluation:** Measures the impact of the SPF and its implemented programs, policies and practices.

Sustainability and Cultural Competence have been placed in the center of the circle, indicating that they impact and should be integrated into all elements of the SPF.



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Drug Free St. Lucie focuses on preventing underage drinking and substance abuse through education, awareness, community-wide initiatives, and changing social norms.



What is Drug Free St. Lucie?

The Roundtable of St. Lucie County’s Drug Free St. Lucie was awarded a 5-year Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant of \$125,000 per year from the White House’s Office of National Drug Control Policy and the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA). This funding is recognition by the federal government of both the leadership of the Roundtable and the community’s commitment to create a healthy and safe environment for all of St. Lucie County youth. The grant provides local community coalitions funding to prevent youth substance use, including prescription drugs, marijuana, and underage drinking.

“Substance misuse and abuse among youth is a challenge we face in our community that leads to other social problems. The Roundtable’s Drug Free St. Lucie will use this resource and implement strategies that will make a difference.” Port St. Lucie Police Chief, John Bolduc

Recognizing that local problems need local solutions, DFC-funding coalitions engage multiple sectors of the community and employ a variety of environmental strategies to address local drug problems. The Roundtable’s Drug Free St. Lucie Coalition is comprised of community leaders, parents, youth, the school district, religious organizations, health care and business professionals, and law enforcement. By involving the community, DFC also helps those youth at risk for substance use recognize that the majority of our nations’ youth chose not to use drugs.

HOW DO WE KNOW IF WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey Results:

The percentage of youth reporting past 30 day use of marijuana has DECREASED:

✓ 2014: 14.4% → 2018: 11.9%

The percentage of youth reporting past 30-day use of illicit drugs other than marijuana has DECREASED:

✓ 2014: 5.9% → 2018: 5.3%

The percentage of youth reporting that they smoked marijuana before the age of 13 has DECREASED:

✓ 2014: 15.6% → 2018: 10.8%

The percentage of youth reporting a perception of great risk of harm from weekly use of marijuana has INCREASED:

✓ 2014: 29.5% → 2018: 31.1%

The percentage of youth reporting a perception of great risk of harm from alcohol use has INCREASED:

✓ 2014: 39.7% → 2018: 47.7%

The percentage of youth reporting past 30-day alcohol use has DECREASED:

✓ 2014: 22% → 2018: 12.2%

