

### **ENVISION PARTNERSHIPS ANNUAL NEWSLETTER 2022-2023**

Life is what you make it

#### **National Association of Social Workers**



(Ohio-Region 6)



INDIVIDUALS SERVED

<u>330</u>



Family-Based





#### Staff Professional Qualifications:

- 7 Ohio Certified Prevention **Professionals**
- 3 Licensed Social Workers
- 2 Certified Health Education **Specialists**
- 6 obtained this year!







## Problem Gambling



This year, 1,206
adults were
served in 36
education
programs. Of
those, 85%
reported a gain in
knowledge about
gambling and its
consequences.

#### Sports Gaming Legalized in OH

On January 1st, Govenor Mike DeWine signed House Bill 29, allowing Ohioans to legally place bets on professional, college, and esports via licensed proprietors or service providers. EP launched the "Pause Before You Play" campaign to encourage those interested in Sports Gaming to think about the consequences of gambling.



Problem gambling can span a wide variety of activities, from problem gambling to video game addiction. These addictions are often insidious and difficult to recognize, as many forms of gaming are socially acceptable with little to any legal limitations. While the majority of do gamers/gamblers experience dependence, in some cases problem gambling can be just as destructive as alcohol and drug addictions. Our approach to problem gambling prevention focuses on education for youth and adults.

#### **Mediation**

Mediation is a nonjudgmental, confidential process that provides participants with the opportunity to address conflict and issues they are experiencing. The mediator is a neutral, third party that assists participants with improving communication, restoring relationships, finding solutions, and creating a written agreement. This year, 463 individuals were served. Of those, 98% resulted in a full agreement, 96% of parents reported that behavior improved at home and 94% at school.



#### **Envision Groups**

The intended audience for this program are students who need additional support due to recent loss or disruption of home life, who are experiencing a drop in grades or other indicator of increased stress, or who are experiencing other social-emotional factors putting them at higher risk.

Students who participate in **Envision Groups** will build peer relationships and skills that will keep them on track for graduation and prepare for the next phase in school and life.



Topics may include:

- Self-esteem & confidence
- Refusal skills

PREVENTION: 2023 Initiatives and Programs

- Effects of substance use on decisionmaking
- Healthy coping skills
- Effective communication
- Reducing risky behaviors to align with goals and values

1,492 youth served in 2023, approximately 93% identified alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, prescription drugs, and vaping/juuling as harmful for their age group.



3,897 bags distributed 2023



## Tobacco Retailer

License Two additional Tobacco Retail Licenses have been enacted in Middletown and Oxford, Hamilton's TRL went into effect on January 1. Since then, four vape shops have been caught selling to minors. The expanded TRL's help reinforce Ohio's Tobacco21 law by having real consequences- fines and possible license revocation- if shops sell underage. Reduced access to youth means fewer young people getting addicted to nicotine.

TOBACCO



### PREVENTION: 2023 Initiatives and Programs

#### **Medication Deactivation Bags**

Envision Partnerships has been distributing medication deactivation bags (Deterra) throughout Butler County for the past two years. This is a proven, innovative, and non-threatening way to limit the number of potentially dangerous medications from our communities. Look forward to Spanish bags to be distributed soon!



#### **Camp Mariposa**



Camp Mariposa is our year-round program in Butler County for youth ages 9-16 impacted by a family member's substance use. We held five day camps & had one overnight for the youth & teen campers. Additionally, we held six different camper family outings in-between camp weekends, including a Reds Game.

"Camp Mariposa helped me to know that it isn't my fault about my family member's addictions and I need to focus on myself and not them."

-10 years old

#### The Boogies & The Woogies

The Healthy Hamilton Coalition partnered with local children's author and native Hamiltonian, Marianne Reed, to implement a book tour designed for 2nd graders featuring her book, "The Boogies & The Woogies". The book discusses overcoming barriers in order to build friendships. The tours featured a reading,

Q&A, a discussion about community and inclusivity, and a dance tutorial.

Over 1000 books were distributed to 13 elementary schools in both Spanish and English!

#### **Butler County Youth Summit: Passion Drives Purpose**



This year's Butler County Youth Summit was held at Miami University Hamilton Regional Campus. The goal of the summit was to play on the strengths of an individual's passions or interests to build resiliency. The special guest for the day was former Kansas City Chief, Spencer Ware.



## **SUICIDE PREVENTION**



# 325 Trained. 2 Trainings per month

QPR

Question. Persuade. Refer. (QPR) is an evidence-based workshop that will prepare participants to help someone experiencing a mental health crisis.

This year's trainees include hospital chaplains, master's students in Public Health, teachers in a school where a student died by suicide, African American Faith Leaders, and parents of children who have experienced trauma.

#### A WALK TO REMEMBER, 2022

This year's walk took place at Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park and featured guest speaker, Jim Unger of Corn Stand Jam, resource tables, candlelit walk, and writing names of loved ones and tying to fencing- spelling the word "HOPE".

70% increase of participants over the last year.

## Greater Cincinnati Faith & Mental Health Collaborative

This Collaborative was created by BCSPC Taskforce to Improve Mental Health in the African American Community. The first event, *Restoring Connections*, was held at Miami University VOA and had in attendance **85 faith leaders who serve the African American community.** 

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### Department of INTERACT Youth Services FOR HEALTH

# United Way



# Signs of Suicide & Lifelines Training

2,230 students served.243 presentations.

When Lifelines was first taught in Middletown Middle School (2019-2020) there was a spirited classroom debate about whether informing an adult if a friend was experiencing suicidal ideation constituted "snitching". This debate evenly split the class. The importance of notifying a trusted adult was then communicated. In 2022-2023, it was shocking when not 1 student stated they believed it constituted "snitching". A few students even chimed in about how important it is to ask for help.

"That's crazy man! You are really just asking someone for help, and that's okay to do!

- Student