

In September 2009, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Office (ONDCP) awarded a Drug Free Communities grant of \$125,000 per year for five years (\$625,000 total) to the City of Providence, Mayor's Substance Abuse Prevention Council (MSAPC). The Drug Free Communities Support Program (DFC) is a collaborative effort between the Executive Office of the President, Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The purpose of the funding is to address two major goals: 1) Establish and strengthen collaboration among communities, private nonprofit agencies, and Federal, State, and local and tribal governments to support efforts of community coalitions to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth; and 2) Reduce substance abuse among youth and, over time, among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increase the risk of substance abuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance abuse. The target population is Providence middle school youth in grades six to eight and their parents.

Datacorp, an independent research firm, will evaluate the initiative. The expected outcomes are to prevent and reduce youth alcohol and drug use by increasing parent engagement & education; reducing youth access to alcohol; decreasing access to marijuana use including paraphernalia; and strengthening the Mayor's Substance Abuse Prevention Council capacity. The primary components of the prevention action plan include:



Strengthening the Council Capacity

- Increasing Council knowledge and understanding of prevention
- Increasing level of collaboration

Parent Engagement & Education

- Providing Basic Educational Substance Abuse Prevention Materials
- Engaging Parents through Neighborhood Engagement Leader's and Parent Council Outreach
- Sponsoring Spanish Radio Programs and Public Service Announcements

Marijuana Access Reduction

- Reducing Access to Drug Paraphernalia
- Creating Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Training for School Resource Officers

Alcohol Access Reduction

- Modifying Board of Licenses Fine and Penalty Structure
- Creating Social Host Ordinances