

Notes from the 2016 Northampton Prevention Coalition Retreat

Powerpoint Presentation:

Holding questions on slideshow presentation until after skype with Melissa due to time.

Skype with Melissa:

- Tobacco issue are blending with marijuana issues because of vaping.
[Chicago harm reduction opioids] ?
- Melissa began speaking about recreational use in Denver, it was on the mind since 2000 when the law was passed to receive medical marijuana.
- Denver Public Health (her organization): 17 schools based clinics in school district approach-
- 38 per cent use or have tried edible (this is on the rise)
- Edibles much more regulated today
- Sat down with teens to ask how to prevent use or how to get those using to think about it in a different way
- Harm reduction messaging very tricky for marijuana
- Her strategy: go to schools and spend most time building intentional relationships with kids asking what kind of problems they're experiencing
- Her question: Is the issue just marijuana alone or alcohol tobacco and healthy eating habits
- Focused on building youth strength to be a partner at the table *[sounds like T.A.G.]*
- Asking themselves and students: are the messages relatable to youth

Audience Question: How did you get youth to the table

- 2 years in the making
- Research on positive youth development
- There are different levels of youth engagement
- Hold forums with community partners
- Wanted youth at the table but were worried they were using youth as a token not a partner
- 1st, needed to change the mentality of what youth engagement really looks like
- **Youth advisor model at organizations: youth would advise adults on anything that had to do with youth**
- **Youth advisors convene as their own and recruit [at YMCAs, afterschool, etc.]**

Audience Question: Funding of your program

- Denver public health grant modeled after the tobacco control program
- Created a youth led initiative to get message out
- Funding from private foundations

- SAMHSA (funded?) small pilot program to start: project, youth use rise in area
 - Students were struggling with negotiation with their parents about getting in car under any substance-- how to address

(Less restrictive in other areas)?

Audience Question: Tax Money from Marijuana

- 3rd legal drug
- Other organizations may have seen the money but not her organization
- Intentionally- DPH receives money from tobacco but can't lobby has a lot of restrictions
- Same restrictions as NP C
- We want to do what is best for our own community

- Home rule- Communities can't strengthened laws with this one
- Every municipality has home rule, laws can be stronger than the state laws typical for Colorado
- Massachusetts won't be able to use that approach
- [Denver?] Tightened laws on dispensaries
- Interactive map between medical and recreational dispensaries
- Restrictions home growing: 6-12 plants? Depends on how many people live in household and when the flowers bloom
- Advertising laws very strict in Denver
- Some areas of Colorado opting out
- Colorado has had marijuana in their culture for a very long time
- **Message clear no matter what substance thrown our way want youth to have the tools they need to say no obtain or not get in car with someone impaired**

Audience Question: Have they been tracking where teens are getting marijuana?

- Getting it from someone who has given them the product from dispensary she thinks

Audience Question: Are they working with parents?

- Yes marijuana normalized perception that it is less harmful
- Suggestions for parents: If they are using put it away
- All edibles could come in different shapes and sized and candy that we were familiar with
- Now: all edibles must have stamp of marijuana and can't look like candy we are familiar with gummy bears, etc.
- Packaging is also changing
- Poison control: children using edibles not just marijuana (pills. etc.)
- Want to standardize the way police departments support recognize marijuana vs e-cigarettes

- Always prioritize parent inclusion

Audience Question: How to handle e-cigarettes, any advise?

- Local ordinance- update tobacco laws 1987 last update
- 56 percent youth said it's very easy to get they just go to the store
- Spike in e-cigarettes has tripled
- Policed don't know how to see difference between vape pen and marijuana
- Can enforce and develop programs now
- Can't have devices or use products
- Youth are using e-cigarettes like crazy, there are many appealing favors
- Emergency calls from little ones getting nicotine on fingers on tongue and ingesting
- Wax and oils coming up with higher potency- they have a good relationship with the dispensarie, they are on board with helping us prevent youth from being in there, they have a database to see how much each person has purchased
- She went into the dispensary
- Can't see that yet here
- The THC levels 86% highest she saw average was 21%
- Education: when you need to call for a ride getting in the car, edibles take longer to kick in
- 10 mg per serving, standardized so you know how much your're getting

Good to know

Harm reduction messaging

Audience Question- Marijuana in auto accidents

- Youths primary concern was their parents using and driving
- Uber and lyft vouchers to young people in a place and can't get home can they call
- Not a lot of transit and must drive- impaired driving

Audience Question: Dispensary clustered in low income areas?

- Must publicly announce that dispensary want to open
- Can't open new dispensary but can open a franchise
- Live Well has multiple locations
- Dispensary can't be within 1000 feet of school
- Huge saturation of tobacco retailers and dispensaries
- New Year's Day- 11 dispensaries with medical marijuana able to open recreational

- Medical and recreation written differently
- Recreation highly regulated but laws are very strict

Josh Wallace Question: Tax was supposed to go to fund schools but because of laws they can't use that money where did it go

- Unclear
- Money to veterans services
- The election season will bring out things on this issue
- Difference between recreational vs medical
- Under 18 can get medical with parent consent
- Recreational 21 plus
- **Melissa: "I wish we were more prepared and could have been more proactive."**

(Amendment 64 laws) ?

Student Presentation:

- Introductions and how long in T.A.G.
- Audience very engaged throughout presentation
- Students spoke about [Documentary](#), what it was like filming
- Took class on film production

Audience Question: Is there a stigma being in the group?

- TAG is really what we make of it, in our first years maybe, but are able to pursue topics they are interested in, it depends on who is in a club

Break Out Groups

- See logic models