### What is the SC Communities That Care (SC CTC) Survey?

* The CTC survey is a comprehensive, anonymous survey that assesses substance use-related behaviors, use, access and perceptions. School districts have the option to participate in this survey every other school year through 2024 for all middle and high school students. This will help avoid conflict with administration of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) which is coordinated by the SC Department of Education.

### How will the SC CTC Survey data be disseminated?

* Each school and school district will be provided access to their respective summary data. No one will have access to individual student data. County alcohol and other drug authorities (local survey coordinating organizations) will also have access to the data. Finally, the ECHO evaluation team will have access to school and school district data in order to provide state-level analyses and generate county level reports, with no individual schools identified.

### How will the SC CTC Survey be administered*?*

* Online administration is recommended. Paper/pencil administration will be available by request on a case basis.

### How much time will be needed to administer the survey?

* To respect classroom instructional time, only the short version of the survey is being administered during 2024. Approximate administration time is about 15-20 minutes.

### How much will survey administration cost?

* DAODAS will serve as sole fiscal agent, meaning the local alcohol and other drug system provider will not be responsible for making payment to the vendor.

### When will survey administration take place?

* Survey administration is anticipated to take place January 22-March 15, 2024
* Schools requesting paper surveys, on a case-by-case basis, will have the deadline of paper form submission communicated to them directly by DAODAS

## *http://www.daodas.sc.gov/wp-content/themes/daodas/assets/images/logos/logo-daodas.pnghttp://www.daodas.sc.gov/wp-content/themes/daodas/assets/images/logos/logo-daodas.pngSurvey Activities*

### What will each district be asked to do?

* Ensure that parental consent is addressed. Each school district will determine the type of consent procedures necessary for student participation in the SC CTC Survey.
* If possible, designate one ‘SC CTC Survey Week’ for high schools to participate within that time period
* In coordination with your local ATOD Authority complete the SC CTC Survey Plan. Your local ATOD Authority will submit the Survey Plan to Emma Zawacki, Epidemiologist, at the SC Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS).

### What will each school be asked to do?

* Identify a school contact person to work with your local ATOD Authority
* Administer the SC CTC Survey to students as described in the SC CTC Survey Plan. Survey instructions for both the online and paper/pencil versions of the survey will be provided.
* If the paper/pencil survey is administered, submit completed surveys to your local ATOD Authority

**What will classroom teachers be asked to do?**

* Read a written statement about the survey and review the classroom survey instructions.
* Ensure that students whose parents refuse consent do not participate in the study.
* Pass out the survey forms, read the instructions to the students, collect the survey materials in the packets provided, and return the materials to the school contact person.
* Survey proctors do not have to be classroom teachers. Other school staff or outside volunteers can be trained and used as well.

### What will each parent be asked to do?

* Parents will be asked to give consent for their child to participate in SC CTC Survey administration.

### What will each student be asked to do?

* Complete a self-administered questionnaire during class time at school. All questions are self-report and anonymous.

## *Principal Participation*

### Why should my school participate?

* The impact on your school will be minimal, and the benefits to the county may be far-reaching.
* Schools will have access to their own results.Although the ECHO evaluation team will only report county-wide SC CTC Survey results, the local data gained from this study will be of value and interest to participating schools and school districts. It can be used for a variety of purposes, including future academic, extracurricular, and policy planning, as well as for grant writing to introduce new programs and solutions to help students achieve.

### What is the content of the student survey?

The focus of the student survey is on behaviors that can result in injury and/or impede positive development among our youth. The survey also includes an assessment of risk and protective factors, which are attitudes and experiences that research has shown to predict these behaviors. The survey includes questions about experiences and attitudes related to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, violent behaviors, and related risk and protective factors.

### Are sensitive questions being asked?

The survey questions have been designed to measure key behaviors without asking overly sensitive questions, although it is possible that some questions may be considered sensitive by some individuals. The survey includes questions about health and development, experiences and attitudes related to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, violent behaviors, and related risk and protective factors. Unless questions in these topic areas are asked honestly and straight-forwardly, we cannot know the degree to which youth are affected by and engage in these problem behaviors.

### Can I see the survey?

Yes. The final survey will be provided to districts and schools. We ask the school principal to keep the student survey on file.

### Is the information anonymous and confidential?

Yes, completely. No names or other identifying information will be connected with the questionnaires, survey materials, or data in any way. Schools and school districts will not identify individual students. ECHO will only report aggregate county level data and will not, in any way, identify individual students.

## *Contact Information*

### Who do I contact if I need more information?

Please feel free to contact, Emma Zawacki at [ezawacki@daodas.sc.gov](mailto:ezawacki@daodas.sc.gov) if you would like more information about any aspect of the SC CTC Youth Survey.