**Definitions, Terms and Requirements for Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Block Grant (SAPT BG)**

Primary Prevention includes all services that reduce the risk of developing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug problems or enhance factors that protect individuals and groups from developing these problems. Strategies focus on strengthening the host or individual who may develop these problems, reducing the availability of the agent (alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs), or modifying the environment in which these problems occur.

The primary focus of prevention strategies is on individuals, targeted high-risk groups, environmental policies and norms, and influencing behavior of persons within the community who are not clients. The Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Block Grant (SAPT) requires the state to spend not less than 20 percent of the SAPT Block Grant on a broad array of primary prevention strategies directed **at individuals not identified to be in need of treatment**. Comprehensive primary prevention services should include activities be provided in a variety of settings for both the general population, and targeted sub-groups who are at high risk for substance abuse. Strategies for achieving primary prevention outcomes include offering program, policies and practices that fall within the following six CSAP strategies areas:

**Information Dissemination** – This strategy provides knowledge and increases awareness of the nature and extent of alcohol and other drug use, abuse, and addiction, as well as their effects on individuals, families, and communities. It also provides knowledge and increases awareness of available prevention and treatment programs and services. It is characterized by one-way communication from the source to the audience, with limited contact between the two.

**Education** – This strategy builds skills through structured learning processes. Critical life and social skills include decision making, peer resistance, coping with stress, problem solving, interpersonal communication, and systematic and judgmental abilities. There is more interaction between facilitators and participants than in the information strategy. Prevention providers are required to implement at least one evidenced-based educational program in each county.

**Alternatives** – This strategy provides participation in activities that exclude alcohol and other drugs. The purpose is to meet the needs filled by alcohol and other drugs with healthy activities, and to discourage the use of alcohol and drugs through these activities.

**Problem Identification and Referral** – This strategy aims at identification of those who have indulged in illegal/age-inappropriate use of tobacco or alcohol and those individuals who have indulged in the first use of illicit drugs in order to assess if their behavior can be reversed through education. It should be noted however, that this strategy does not include any activity designed to determine if a person is in need of treatment.

**Community-based Process** – This strategy provides ongoing networking activities and technical assistance to community groups or agencies. It encompasses neighborhood-based, grassroots empowerment models using action planning and collaborative systems planning.

**Environmental** – This strategy establishes or changes written and unwritten community standards, codes, and attitudes, thereby influencing alcohol and other drug use by the general population.

**South Carolina’s Goals as stated in the Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment Block Grant Application for the utilization of the 20% Primary Prevention Set Aside**

As identified in the annual outcomes report and the *South Carolina Profile on Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Substance-Related Indicators* (the “SEOW Profile”), South Carolina has identified the follow priority areas to address throughout the state utilizing the SAPT BG Primary Prevention Funding:

Underage drinking

Alcohol-related car crashes (including youth crashes)

Youth tobacco use (including smokeless tobacco use)

* Prevent substance abuse and improve the well-being of youth and families in South Carolina

**Goal: To reduce underage alcohol use in South Carolina**.

* Objectives:
  + Decrease past-month alcohol use (30-day use) among South Carolina high school students to 30% or less.
  + To reduce the underage alcohol buy rate for the state of South Carolina to 12% or less
* Indicators
  1. Indicator #1 – Self-reported past-month (30-day) alcohol use among South Carolina high school students

*Data Source:* Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

*Description of Data:* The YRBS is conducted every two years in South Carolina with a sample of high school students from public high schools throughout the state.

*Data Issues/Caveats:* None

* 1. Indicator #2 – Underage alcohol buy rate for the state of South Carolina

*Data Source:* Local law enforcement data reported via the AET Alcohol Compliance Check Form

*Description of Data:* Local law enforcement reported via the AET Alcohol Compliance Check Form. The information on each form is aggregated to the county level and the state level.

*Data Issues/Caveats:* Local law enforcement choose the frequency and targets of their compliance check efforts. Therefore, there may be some inconsistency from year to year in what areas receive compliance checks and to what intensity. This may have some influence on the buy rate, particularly if an area not traditionally enforced begins to receive compliance checks. These areas often begin with higher buy rates.

**Goal: To reduce alcohol-related car crashes in South Carolina.**

* Objective: Decrease the percentage of motor vehicle fatalities in which one or more driver had a BAC of 0.08% or higher to 40% or less.
  + Indicator #1- Using FARS data, this indicator measures the percentage of deaths in motor vehicle crashes that involve a driver with a BAC of .08% or greater

*Data Source:*  FARS

*Description of Data:* Using FARS data, this indicator measures the percentage of deaths in motor vehicle crashes that involve a driver with a BAC of .08% or greater.

*Data Issues/Caveats:* FARS data are often available only a considerable amount of time after a calendar year ends. Therefore, the targets we have set above actually reflect events that have already taken place. Our targets may be more ambitious in the future when we are actually projecting data in a timeframe that reflects our somewhat new increased attention to this problem.

**Goal: To reduce tobacco use among youth in South Carolina.**

* Objectives:
  + Reduce the state Retailer Violation Rate (RVR) to 10% or less.
  + Reduce past-month tobacco use (30-day use) among South Carolina high school students to 15% or less.
* Indicators
  + Indicator #1 – Self-reported past-month (30-day) tobacco use among South Carolina high school students

*Data Source:* Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

*Description of Data:* The YRBS is conducted every two years in South Carolina with a sample of high school students from public high schools throughout the state.

*Data Issues/Caveats:* None

* + Indicator #2 – The state RVR as measured by the Youth Access to Tobacco Study

*Data Source:* South Carolina Youth Access to Tobacco Study

*Description of Data:* The state RVR as measured by the Youth Access to Tobacco Study indicates the percentage of retailers that will sell cigarettes to an underage buyer.

*Data Issues/Caveats:* The study has up to a 3% margin of error.

**Goal: To provide primary prevention programs and practices to prevent substance abuse and improve the well-being of youth and families in South Carolina.**

* Objectives:
* To maintain that 95% or more of the participants served in primary prevention educational programs will be served using evidence-based universal, selected, and indicated programs.
* To reduce the percentage of South Carolina high school students reporting the use of any substance in the past 30 days to 45% or less.
* Indicators
  + Indicator #1 – Percentage of the participants served by primary prevention evidence-based universal, selected, and indicated educational programs

*Data Source:* KIT/IMPACT/PIRE

*Description of Data:* An annual prevention evaluation report has been provided for South Carolina by PIRE since 2005. The report summarizes prevention outcomes generated by implementation of prevention activities throughout the year by South Carolina’s system of county alcohol and drug abuse authorities. The report focuses on outcomes generated through pre- and post-testing of middle and high school youth as well as outcomes that can be assessed across sites for environmental strategies for alcohol and tobacco and the Youth Access to Tobacco Study (i.e., “Synar”). For additional information, please visit: http://ncweb.pire.org/scdocuments/.

*Data Issues/Caveats:* Due to the high percentage of participants already being served in evidence-based programming, there is an evident ceiling effect and little room for improvement.

* + Indicator #2 – Percentage of South Carolina high school students reporting the use of any substance in the past 30 days.

*Data Source:* Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS)

*Description of Data:* The measure is calculated from student response data from the YRBS in South Carolina, which is conducted every two years. Currently, students are asked about 30-day use of six substances: cigarettes, snuff, cigars, alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine. We will calculate the percentage of students that report use of any of these.

*Data Issues/Caveats:* Currently, this measure is not generally reported by the S.C. Department of Education that oversees the survey and its data. To calculate this measure, we will need the raw data or make a special data request. As we have received the raw dataset for the past several years, this is not expected to be an issue. At times, the YRBS measures are changed, so we cannot be certain the same six items involving past-30-day substance use will be asked when the survey is implemented. If needed, we can adjust the measure and go back and recalculate a comparable baseline.