

PREVENTION WORKS BY ...



Strengthening individual knowledge and skills



Promoting community education



Educating healthcare providers and other professionals



Fostering coalitions and networks



Mobilizing neighborhoods and communities



Changing internal practices and policies of agencies and institutions



Influencing policy and legislation

For more information:

Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center
<https://www.samhsa.gov/ebp-resource-center>

Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant
<https://www.samhsa.gov/grants/blockgrants/sabg>

A Guide to SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework,
<https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/20190620-samhsa-strategic-preventionframework-guide.pdf>

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PRIMARY PREVENTION STRATEGIES

SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention identified six prevention strategies. A comprehensive prevention approach using as many strategies as possible has the greatest potential to reduce substance use.



Information Dissemination: One-way communication to provide information about drug use, misuse, and addiction and the effects on individuals, families, and communities on available prevention programs and services. *Examples: Media campaigns, brochures, health fairs*



Prevention Education: Two-way communication between educator and participants that provides information and activities aimed to improve critical life and social skills, including decision-making, refusal skills, and critical analysis. *Examples: Classroom sessions, parenting classes*



Alternative Activities: Activities that exclude alcohol and drug use through constructive and healthy activities. *Examples: Community drop-in centers, mentoring programs*



Problem Identification & Referral: Aims to identify those who have used drugs and to assess if their behavior can be reversed through education. *Examples: DUI programs, student assistance programs*



Community-Based Processes: Enhances the ability and capacity of the community to more effectively provide substance use prevention services. *Examples: Neighborhood action training, multi-agency coordination*



Environmental: Establishes or changes community standards, codes, and attitudes, with the goal of reducing drug use in the general population. *Examples: Advertisement restrictions, product pricing strategies, enforcement*