

Groton Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (GASP): The CSC Years

Since 1999, GASP has been serving Groton as the local prevention entity. Here is a look at some highlights over the last 6 years:



For more information or to contact us:

GASP Coordinator
 Carolyn Wilson
 860.446.3062
 cwilson@llhd.org
 www.grotonprevents.org
 @groton_prevents

Thank to our funder and parent agency:



2015 - 2016

- GASP awarded CSC Grant from DMHAS
- Through a needs assessment, marijuana and non-medical use of prescription drugs were selected as priorities
- Family norms and perception of harm were selected as priority risk factors; strategies include social marketing, enforcement/surveillance and youth/parent education
- GASP builds capacity with strengthened partnerships with Chamber of Commerce, Community Speaks Out and local healthcare providers
- GASP prioritizes Cultural competence; offers materials in Spanish, holds training on CLAS Standards, Children of Incarcerated Parents and Young Men of Color.
- Prescription drug misuse and marijuana use dropped among youth, marijuana passed goal of 9.4% (6.5%) Prescription drug misuse at 5.3% nearing 2020 goal of 4.9%



2016 - 2017

- GASP continues robust educational and marketing campaigns with @Groton_Prevents parent mailings, fact-based youth posters and educational events with trauma/resilience expert Dr. Peacock
- Social media outreach on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter Facebook up 31%, Instagram up 35%, Twitter up 21% from previous year
- Exceeds 2-ton mark for Rx drug collection; continues #TakeItToTheBox promotion and bi-annual Take Back events



2017 - 2018

- Observation of National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week over 125 middle school students reached with GASP crossword and word search
- Participation in first annual collaborative fundraising event; Emerald Ball; 425 people in attendance
- SADD leadership takes charge of prevention Week at Fitch High School



2018 - 2019

- Celebration of 20 years of prevention @Serenity Ball
- 125 Grasso Students complete EverFi prescription drug misuse curriculum
- Implementation of new structure and member responsibilities to strengthen coalition to meet future goals via Coalition Vitality Assessment Tool



2019 - 2020

- GASP goes virtual; coalition and implementation move online due to COVID-19
- Wide reaching #NDAFW and #NPW offerings on using social media and ZOOM
- Successful data collection with Groton Youth Survey (rescheduled) and Groton Community Survey

Outcomes



CSC grant data milestones:
 Decrease in youth marijuana use: 75%
 Decrease in youth non-medical prescription drug use: 96.3%

- Increase perception of parental disapproval of marijuana: 5%
- Increase perception of family clear rules against marijuana: 7.9%
- Increase perception of parental disapproval of prescription drug abuse: 4%
- Increase perception of family clear rules for prescription drug abuse: 9.4%

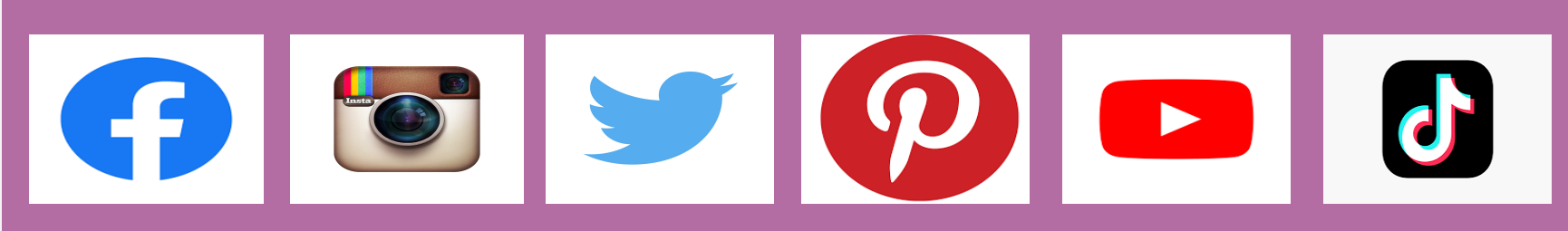
- Increase in perception of harm for marijuana use: 15.7%
- Increase perception of harm for prescription drug abuse: 13%

*percentage change data from 2014 to 2020, Groton Youth Survey



2021 + goals

- Continued grant-funded prevention, sustainable prevention activities in the brand new middle school, prevention-informed community planning and distinction as a recovery-friendly community! Join us-make it happen!



Mission: To build a healthy, safe and drug-free community through advocacy and education

Vision: Building community strength through prevention