

## **The Indiana Commission to Combat Drug Abuse**



### **Comprehensive Community Plan 2025**

County: Starke

LCC Name: Hub Coalition Starke County

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#### **County Commissioners:**

Charles Chesak, President 6715 W. 400 S., North Judson, IN 46366

Kathy Norem, VP 0599 N. 650 E., Knox, IN 46534

Bryan Cavender Member 4635 E. 250 S., Knox, IN 46534

#### **County Courthouse:**

53 E. Washington

Knox, IN 46534

### **Vision Statement**

Proving sustainable initiatives and resources to end substance use disorder in Starke County.

### **Mission Statement**

The community hub is responsible for building capacity, creating sustainability, and providing resources to enhance the quality of life in Starke County by reducing substance use and the underlying causes and unintended consequences.

### **Membership List**

#	Name	Organization	Race	Gender	Category
1	Jodi Aurand	Girls on the Run	White	Female	Youth Serve
2	Jack Rosa	Sheriff's Department	White	Male	LE
3	Todd Willis	Porter-Starke Service	White	Male	Treatment
4	Abby Columbia	Prosecutor's Office	White	Female	Judicial
5	Jack Hudgens	Sheriff's Department	White	Male	LE
6	Shannon Hoekman	Chamber of Commerce	White	Female	Business
7	David Robinson	First Church of Christ	White	Male	Religious
8	Debbie Mix	Purdue University	White	Female	Civic
9	Terra Keegan	American Heart Assoc	White	Female	Business
10	Irene Szakonyi	SC Youth Club	White	Female	Youth Serve
11	Brandi Pilarczyk	Community	White	Female	Volunteer
12	Angela Wehner	Porter-Starke Services	White	Female	Business
13	Xavier Rodriguez	Veteran's Administration	Hispanic	Male	Government
14	Athena Camp	HealthLine	White	Female	Recovery
15	Donna Swain	HealthLine	White	Female	Recovery
16	Leo Smith	Porter-Starke Services	White	Male	Recovery
17	Megan Johnston	Hope Restored	White	Female	Recovery
18	Taylor Long	Porter-Starke Services	White	Female	Media
19	Alyssa Quick	Bowen Center	White	Female	Treatment
20	Jacque Ryan	Community Foundation	White	Female	Business
21	Tracey Robinson	Bella Vita	White	Female	Civic
22	Shawn Matraw	Detention Center	White	Male	LE
23	Frank Lynch	HD/Coroner	White	Male	Healthcare
24	Brandon Pettit	Detention Center	White	Male	LE
25	Anita Goodan	WKAI Radio	White	Female	Media
26	Stacey Garcelon	Anam Cara	White	Female	Treatment
27	Tara Andrews	Bowen Center	White	Female	Treatment
28	April Cooke	Sheriff's Department	White	Female	Law Enforce
29	Jim Ash	Oregon-Davis HS	White	Male	School
30	Larry Smith	Intrepid Phoenix	White	Male	Business
31	Albert Gay	Albert Gay Consulting	Black	Male	Business
21	David Weinberg	MSB Fitness	White	Male	Business
22	Chuck Bowen	Hickory Hills Treatment	White	Male	Business
23	Craig Ison	Calvary Baptist Church	White	Male	Religious

24	Kathleen DeRolf	IN Workforce Develop	White	Female	Government
25	Erica Gomez	Girls on the Run	White	Female	YouthServing
26	Cassandra Garber	1 <sup>st</sup> Source Bank	White	Female	Business
27	Scott Janson	Gateway Foundations	White	Male	Recovery
28	Wayne James	Sheriff's Department	Black	Male	Law Enforce
29	Donna Golob	PATH	White	Female	YouthServing
30	Samantha Aguilar	Graceful Yoga	Hispanic	Female	Business

### LCC Meeting Schedule:

January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, and November. The December coalition meeting is the award and recognition ceremony. All meetings are held at the Starke County Public Library 152 W. Culver Street, Knox. Coalition meeting time: 11:00 AM-12:00; Recovery RCO meeting: 12:00-1:00 PM. Public meeting all welcome to attend.

## II. Community Needs Assessment

### Community Profile

#### County Name

Starke County, Indiana

#### County Population

According to U.S. Census Bureau 2023, the estimated population in Starke County was 23,371 which includes 49.6 % females. The population density was 75.08 persons per square mile in 2023. (U.S. Census Bureau,2023).

Most of the population is Caucasian alone, which occupied 94.1% of the entire population.

The second-largest population in Starke County was Hispanic Latino at 4.1 %.

The third-largest population in Starke County was people who have two or more races at 3.6% (U.S. Census Bureau, 2023). \* This section has been updated by the Epidemiologist\*

#### Schools in the community

Starke County has three school corporations. There were 3,173 students enrolled in school in 2023, including 1,535 female students and 1,638 male students.

1. Oregon-Davis School Corp
2. North Judson-San Pierre Sch Corp
3. Knox Community School Corp

#### Medical care providers in the community (hospitals, health care centers, medical centers/clinics, etc.)

Starke Hospital, Pulaski Health Care Center, Northwest Health – Starke, HealthLinc

#### Mental health care providers in the community (hospitals with psychiatric/behavioral health units, mental health clinics, private/public providers, etc.)

Porter-Starke Services Inc, Bowen, Michiana, Hickory,

#### Service agencies/organizations.

Community Service of SC, Indiana Hope Center, North Judson food pantries; Coalition Against Domestic Abuse; Caring Place; Community Services of SC elderly services and energy assistance; Bella Vita Pregnancy Resource Center; SC Women, Infant and Children, WIC; Work One; Professional Employment Partners; Integrity Trade Services; DM Family Staffing; Bowen Center; HealthLinc; Keys Counseling; Porter-Starke Services; Recovery: AA, Al-Anon, NA, SMART Recovery, Celebrate Recovery; 211; Division of Family Resources; Starke County Jail FARM
<b>Local media outlets that reach the community</b> ABC57, Tri-County News, WKVI Radio, Lamar, WVLP stream, Matters of Substance stream
<b>What are the substances that are most problematic in your community?</b> Methamphetamine, Heroin/Opioids, Tobacco/Vaping, Marijuana, Alcohol-underage drinking, and Cocaine

### Community Risk and Protective Factors

Risk Factors	Resources/Assets	Limitations/Gaps
<p>There is a low perception of harm for Marijuana, tobacco CBD, vaping related juices and devices because of marketing to youth, social norming, and generational use.</p> <p>Youth and adults are exposed to pro-Marijuana promotion and marketing tactics to legalize recreational sales. The fact that neighboring states Illinois, Michigan, and now Ohio have legalized Marijuana for medicinal and recreational use, increasing the likelihood of normalizing the behavior.</p> <p>Nicotine and vaping have a perceived low perception of harm and a high level of parental acceptance.</p> <p>Youth do not feel a sense of belonging in their community because of the</p>	<p>The LCC has created messaging for the consequences of using Marijuana, cannabinoids, and nicotine. Multiple campaigns have been developed and are circulated through local media campaigns. School programs available at no charge.</p>	<p>Overcoming messaging challenges from powerhouse Marijuana and tobacco industry, limited budget for marketing and promotion; challenges also from promoting message to youth through social media</p> <p>Teachers/schools have limited influence on students; LCC provides evidence-based robust programming at no cost to schools – Avoid; ODL; Positive Ticketing, Media Ready, Preventure, and Handle with Care.</p> <p>A significant barrier is the lack of awareness about vaping risks. Many individuals, including parents and youth, underestimate its long-term health effects, such as nicotine addiction, respiratory complications, cardiovascular issues, and potential harm to brain</p>

<p>transient nature of society and the absence of stability, long-term friendships, family, and neighbors.</p> <p>Youth have a high perception of peer use, which can increase the risk of initiation of substance use</p>		<p>development. <b>*Added by the Epidemiologist*</b></p>
<p>Youth report a low perception of harm with consideration for heroin/opioids, meth, and cocaine.</p> <p>Intergenerational substance use behaviors can increase youth experimentation and drug use.</p> <p>Adults and youth with undiagnosed mental health issues go untreated and lead to self-medication and potential drug addiction.</p>	<p>Targeted messaging campaigns for students, parents, and schools. Prepared social media campaigns with prevention the message, peer-to-peer group facilitation, and teacher-led strategies available.</p> <p>Fully trained and certified staff provide training and resources to community, provide Overdose Lifeline program to all school corporations, Parents that Host, Take Back Day, INSPECT, and MHFA.</p> <p>Council provides drug tests to parents to test their child if suspicious or to set a baseline. Currently offer urine test cups and DetectaChem iPhone App compatible test pouches.</p> <p>Council will begin funding community agencies to provide direct programming and strategies to youth, mental health training and programs.</p> <p>Funding to address youth substance use and provide tactics to reduce the perception of low harm as related to substance use.</p>	<p>The stigma of recovery and treatment is a barrier to supporting and maintaining treatment and recovery behaviors.</p> <p>High levels of community funding with sporadic and low participation.</p>

	<p>Treatment and recovery efforts are resisted because of shame and judgment.</p> <p>Mental health training (MHFA) Provide programs and initiatives that reduce the supply and availability of drugs such as INSPECT, and bi-annual DEA supported Take Back Day.</p> <p>Matters of Substance podcast and local radio broadcast success stories, prevention topics, suicide, anti-bullying messages, and stigma discussions to provide information to listeners for acceptance and action on a weekly basis.</p>	
<p>Data indicates the community norm supports underage drinking for celebratory milestones such as graduation, prom, homecoming, and athletic achievements.</p> <p>Parents often accept or support underage drinking and feel they have the responsibility to monitor the behaviors. Parental monitoring is perceived as safe parenting.</p> <p>Low perception of harm for long term consequences of underage drinking</p> <p>Intergenerational alcohol use and permissive parental view</p>	<p>The LCC has developed a marketing campaign to identify the consequences of underage drinking. The campaign airs on local radio station, Matters of Substance podcast and WVLP stream.</p> <p>Marketing materials are available to interested agencies and community organizations for distribution.</p> <p>The LCC has secured a list of liquor store outlets/density in Starke and has begun to roll out the Sticker Shock campaign to address minors purchasing alcohol.</p> <p>Lamar billboard locations in Starke County promote</p>	<p>Parent education is key to reducing underage drinking. Additional resources need to be developed aimed toward adults as a role model.</p> <p>Youth mentoring opportunities are shown to be effective in reducing substance use, however, there are limited opportunities currently for implementation.</p> <p>Creating a targeted, extensive, and effective social media following, and subsequent social media campaigns is a time-consuming task.</p>

	<p>prevention and recovery efforts.</p> <p>Coalition members and community agencies trained to identify mental health issues and provide referrals.</p> <p>Mental Health First Aid, Deflection Academy, and suicide prevention training is available to LE, first responders, educators, and community members to identify and intervene with mental health and substance abuse issues.</p>	
Protective Factors	Resources/Assets	Limitations/Gaps
<p>Socioeconomic Status: Median household income \$77,700; Poverty rate: 12.3%. The life expectancy: 72.4 years old. <b>*Updated by Epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>Education level: Nearly 85.8% of residents in Starke County earned a high school diploma or higher and 12.6% of residents earned a bachelor or higher degree. <b>*Updated by Epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>Access to mental health and preventive medicine. Only 11% of the population are uninsured.</p> <p>Community involvement is active in promoting health behaviors and supporting substance use reduction</p>	<p>The LCC is the acting hub of substance-related activities and provides expert training, credentialing, continuing education, resources, and support to agencies and the community at no cost.</p> <p>Legislators are currently restricting the legalization of Marijuana under this administration. Additionally, nicotine and vaping juices, as well as devices, are restricted from youth purchases.</p> <p>Identification is required and Excise compliance checks in District 1 checks for underage sales of alcohol, tobacco/vape products, and synthetic cannabinoids.</p> <p>School campuses have zero tolerance for substance possession and/use while on school property.</p>	<p>Unemployment has risen slightly in recent years, and unintended consequences will take time to gauge and respond to.</p> <p>Although mental health and substance use disorder programs and strategies are available, attendance is generally low.</p> <p>There is a lack of public transportation, which limits use by those in the lower-income brackets. There is also limited opportunities for youth activities through parks and recreation.</p> <p>9.1% of county residents under 65 years old are uninsured and that limits their healthcare access.</p> <p>Schools often use exclusionary punishment as a</p>

<p>initiatives.</p> <p>Agencies partner to provide resources to increase mental health initiatives and reduce substance use.</p>	<p>Consequences are listed in the policy and procedure manual.</p> <p>School resource officers are stationed at campuses throughout the day and available for consultation and procuring safe environments that promote learning. K-9's are on-site for therapy and seizure.</p>	<p>consequence of substance use at school, which may increase the risk of subsequent use.</p>
<p>Active community engagement and agencies that support prevention, treatment, recovery, and judicial efforts.</p> <p>Mental health and substance use disorders are a community priority. Recovery efforts are supported by the community.</p>	<p>A law enforcement committee led by a newly elected Sheriff to target impaired driving and bring prevention strategies to the community.</p> <p>Community agencies and churches form partnerships to address the homeless and those with mental and substance abuse issues.</p> <p>Recovery outreach throughout the state is on the upswing. Indiana Recovery Network/Mental Health America Indiana provides monthly meetings and webinars to LCC's. Indiana Addictions Coalition, Indiana Assoc. of Peer Recovery, and Next Level Recovery provide structure and support to LCC's and local agencies.</p>	<p>Data indicates that stigma and the misconceptions that support it prevents those in recovery from fully integrating into the community.</p> <p>Starke County residents struggling with substance dependence oftentimes still face the negative stigma and shame. associated with addiction. This may prevent them from fully integrating back into society.</p> <p>Lack of insurance, funding avenues, and/or available openings at facilities make inpatient substance abuse/detox treatment within Starke County, and other surrounding counties a challenge at times.</p> <p>Starke County doesn't have a dedicated detox facility and referrals are to Lake County, Marshall County, St. Joseph County, downstate, or out of</p>



		<p>state. An abundance of in-patient and out-patient facilities are bombarding the community making choices difficult for the consumer.</p> <p>There are limited recovery facilities available for female and male residents; however, community agencies work together to shelter those in active addiction as well as those in recovery.</p> <p>Due to the homogeneity of the county, marginalized populations may be reluctant to seek help from recovery and treatment services.</p>
Appropriate structure such as limits, rules, monitoring, and predictability	<p>Strong mental health and faith-based communities are invested in preventive measures, treatment modalities such as medication-assisted treatment, recovery, and recovery support.</p> <p>First Responders are trained to respond to overdose events with Naloxone and refer to treatment for rehabilitation.</p> <p>The LCC is the community hub for networking, training, and planning substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery strategies with a multitude of agencies.</p>	<p>Wait times to initiate a therapeutic intervention for both mental health and substance treatment can be lengthy at times.</p> <p>Parents don't seek help for themselves or their children because of stigma.</p> <p>Parents aren't able to identify substance use in the experimental stage until it becomes an addiction.</p>

### III. Making A Community Action Plan

#### Step 1: Create + Categorize Problem Statements

Risk Factors	Problem Statement(s)

<p>Starke County residents, both youth and adult, struggle with marijuana use in all forms. Youth specifically struggle with vaping marijuana, and county residents have a low perception of harm of marijuana. Substance use also adversely affects the mental health of youth and adult residents alike.</p>	<p>Starke County residents do not see the dangers that are associated with Marijuana and liquid nicotine because of ad campaigns that normalize the behaviors.</p> <p>Starke County experiences challenges in its youth and adult populations about both use and abuse of cannabinoids and/or nicotine products in all their various forms.</p> <p>Neighboring Illinois and Michigan openly sell Marijuana is in stores oftentimes to minors. The state of Ohio also recently legalized the use and sale of marijuana. Adults and minors travel to legalized Marijuana states in less than an hour and return to Indiana with the product for use and sale.</p> <p>Stakeholders feel there is a mental health crisis for both adults and youth in the county and should be addressed. Mental health issues can be exacerbated by substance use and misuse.</p>
<p>Misuse of both illicit and prescription drugs like meth, cocaine, heroin, and prescription opioids has caused negative health outcomes and made a negative impact on the quality of life for county residents.</p>	<p>Starke County youth may be at higher risk for developing substance use disorder due to peer and family norms that are in favor of use.</p> <p>Starke County is lacking in youth peer-to-peer mentoring and youth participation in preventative substance use education.</p> <p>Starke County struggles with the misuse of illicit drugs such as Meth, Heroin, Cocaine, and a variety of prescription medications, with polysubstance use being of key concern. The use of these illegal substances is negatively affecting a variety of legal, health, and social outcomes.</p>
<p>In Starke County, both the youth and adult populations have a low perception of harm when discussing alcohol use/abuse. Underage drinking and driving are two serious concerns in Starke County.</p>	<p>Starke County Residents, both young and old, have impacts in their health, legal, financial, socioeconomic, and quality of life characteristics by the misuse and abuse of alcohol products.</p> <p>Starke County residents, both young and old, have higher than average rates of binge drinking.</p>

	Starke County adults do not properly lock up their alcohol which leads to minors having unlimited, unsupervised access to the alcohol.
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## Step 2: Evidence-Informed Problem Statements

Problem Statements	Data Establishing Problem	Data Source
<p>Starke County residents, both youth and adult, struggle with marijuana use in all forms. Youth specifically struggle with vaping marijuana, and county residents have a low perception of harm of marijuana. Substance use also adversely affects the mental health of youth and adult residents alike.</p>	<p><b>Marijuana</b></p> <p>In 2023 there were 195 treatment episodes in Starke County for substance use, 80 of them included treatment for marijuana use, and 14 included marijuana dependence, 41% and 14% of individuals in treatment, respectively. <b>*Updated by epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>In 2023 there were 128 total incarcerations, which accounted for about 12% of admissions to the Starke County jail. The most common charge was possession of marijuana, which accounted for 63.3% of charges in Starke County in 2023.</p> <p><b>Tobacco Products:</b></p> <p><u>Adults:</u></p> <p>The 2021-2022 National Drug use survey estimated that 23.63% of Indiana residents 12 years or older reported using tobacco products in the past month, which was higher than the national rate of 19.07%. <b>*Updated by epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>There were approximately 38 deaths attributable to smoking in 2023, as well as an estimated 6 deaths due to secondhand smoke. In 2023 there were approximately 1,147 incidents of smoking related illness in Starke County.</p> <p>In 2023, smoking during pregnancy was associated with 40 cases of low birth weight,</p>	<p>Indiana State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup. (2024). The Prevalence, Consumption, and Consequences of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, Opioids, Stimulants, Mental Health, Problem Gambling, and Viral Hepatitis/HIV/AIDS in Indiana, SFY 2024.</p>

	<p>sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), and decreased lung function. Additionally, 16.8% of pregnant women reported smoking that year. <b>*Added by epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>Adult Smoking Prevalence by Gender, Race/Ethnicity Age in The State of Indiana, 2022</p> <p>Male – 17.3% Female – 15.2%</p> <p>White – 16.6% Black – 17.2% Hispanic – 11.8%</p> <p>18-24 – 5.2% 25-34 – 18.7% 35-44 – 21.4% 45-54 – 21.1% 55-64 – 21.0% 65+ - 10.5% <b>*Updated by epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>County Health Rankings reports that 24% of Starke County Adults reported current smoking in 2022, and 25% in 2023.</p> <p>In Indiana in 2021, 19.1% of High School Students reported using electronic vapor products, a rate that was higher than the National Rate of approximately 18%.</p> <p><u>Youth:</u></p> <p>In the 2023 academic year, Starke County recorded 43 incidents involving suspensions or expulsions due to tobacco use. <b>*Updated by Epidemiology*</b></p>	<p>Indiana University. (2024). The State of Tobacco Control in Starke County.</p> <p>Health Rankings and Roadmaps. (2023). Ranked Measure Data.</p>
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	<p>involving treatment for prescription opioid dependence, 67 involving heroin use, and 56 involving heroin dependence.</p> <p>While this demonstrates a decrease in the amount of treatment episodes for Starke County as well as the proportion of treatments for Heroin use and dependence, a larger portion of treatment episodes in 2023 involved prescription opioid and heroin use.  <b>*Updated by Epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>4.6% of treatment episodes involved treatment for Cocaine use, 43.6% involved treatment for meth use, and 18.5% involved treatment for meth dependence.  <b>*Updated by Epidemiologist*</b></p>	<p>Indiana State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup. (2024). The Prevalence, Consumption, and Consequences of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, Opioids, Stimulants, Mental Health, Problem Gambling, and Viral Hepatitis/HIV/AIDS in Indiana, SFY 2024.</p>
<p>In Starke County, both the youth and adult populations have a low perception of harm when discussing alcohol use/abuse. Underage drinking and drinking and drive are two serious concerns in Starke County.</p>	<p><u>Adults:</u></p> <p>In 2022 there were 195 treatment episodes in Starke County, 50 of them including treatment for alcohol use, and 33 for alcohol dependence, 25.6% and 16.9% of treatment episodes, respectively.  <b>*Updated by Epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>Percentage of Adults Reporting Past 30-day Alcohol use by Gender, Race, and Age in the State of Indiana, 2022:</p> <p>Male – 54.8%  Female – 44.5%  White – 51.0%  Black – 46.5%  Asian – 33.2%  Hispanic – 45.5%</p> <p>18-24 – 44.5%  25-34 – 60.4%</p>	<p>Indiana State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup. (2024). The Prevalence, Consumption, and Consequences of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, Opioids, Stimulants, Mental Health, Problem Gambling, and Viral Hepatitis/HIV/AIDS in Indiana, SFY 2024.</p>

	<p>35-44 – 56.9%</p> <p>45-54 – 53.6%</p> <p>55-64 – 47.5%</p> <p>65+ - 38.8%</p> <p><b>*Updated by Epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>Percentage of Adults Reporting Bing Drinking in the past 30 Days by Gender, Race, and age in the State of Indiana, 2022:</p> <p>Male – 18.4%</p> <p>Female – 10.8%</p> <p>White – 14.7%</p> <p>Black – 12.3%</p> <p>Hispanic – 18.2%</p> <p>18-24 – 20.4%</p> <p>25-34 – 19.9%</p> <p>35-44 – 20.4%</p> <p>45-54 – 16.5%</p> <p>55-64 – 12.0%</p> <p>65+ – 4.3%</p> <p><b>*Updated by Epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>In 2022, Indiana reported that 10.05% of individuals aged 12 and older had an alcohol use disorder, which is slightly lower than the national rate of 10.55%. This rate has been.</p> <p><b>*Updated by epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>In 2022, the State of Indiana the age-adjusted alcohol-attributable mortality was 15.1 per 100,000 population, an 2.03% increase from 2021, and a 174.07% increase from 2009.</p> <p><b>*Updated by epidemiologist*</b></p> <p>In 2023 in Starke County there were 137 criminal charges involving operating a vehicle while intoxicated, and 33 for</p>	
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	<p>public intoxication in the same year.</p> <p><u>Youth:</u></p> <p>In 2022, 8.2% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, 12.5% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders, and 19.9% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders in the State of Indiana reported monthly alcohol use.</p> <p>In 2023 there were 33 child removals from their home, 1 of them were due to alcohol abuse.</p> <p><b>*Updated by Epidemiologist*</b></p>	<p>Indiana State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup. (2023). The Prevalence, Consumption, and Consequences of Alcohol, Tobacco, Marijuana, Opioids, Stimulants, Mental Health, Problem Gambling, and Viral Hepatitis/HIV/AIDS in Indiana, SFY 2024.</p>
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### Step 3: Brainstorm

Problem Statements	What can be done (action)?
<p>1.</p> <p>Starke County residents, both youth and adult, struggle with marijuana use in all forms. Youth specifically struggle with vaping, THC vaping and Marijuana. County residents have a low perception of harm of marijuana. Substance use also adversely affects the mental health of youth and adult residents alike.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Educate elected officials to keep them current on the legalization of marijuana by providing them with epidemiological data.</li> <li>2. Encourage elected officials to include product packaging design guidelines when creating legislation to reduce the appeal to youth.</li> <li>3. Provide support and resources to community sectors to reduce use/abuse.</li> <li>4. Support classroom evidence-based health curriculum that addresses Marijuana and related issues.</li> <li>5. Continue to encourage local schools to participate in the Indiana Youth Survey to collect data.</li> <li>6. Create &amp; distribute prevention media campaigns.</li> <li>7. Provide, fund, and support youth mentoring opportunities to assist at-risk youth.</li> <li>8. Support a dedicated Certified Prevention Specialist at each school. Assist with training and certification requirements.</li> <li>9. Develop content for Matters of Substance podcast and WKAI broadcast to educate</li> </ol>

	the public on the topics of Marijuana, cannabinoids, vaping and nicotine products.
2. Misuse of both illicit and prescription drugs like meth, cocaine, heroin, and prescription opioids has caused negative health outcomes and made a negative impact on the quality of life for county residents.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide support and resources to community sectors to reduce use/abuse.</li> <li>2. Support classroom evidence-based health curriculum that addresses illicit substances and related issues.</li> <li>3. Create &amp; distribute prevention media campaigns to give educational information to the community to increase their awareness about the negative health outcome of substances use.</li> <li>4. Support youth driven activities at the community level to provide prevention education and reduce the use of prescription drugs, Opioids, Heroin, Cocaine, Meth, and polysubstance use.</li> <li>5. Support a resolute Certified Prevention Specialist at each school. Assist with training and certification requirements.</li> <li>6. Provide youth mentoring opportunities to assist with at-risk youth and build self-esteem with evidence-based programs.</li> <li>7. Develop content for Matters of Substance podcast and WVLP broadcast to educate the public on related topics.</li> <li>8. Develop youth council at middle/high schools to promote healthy choices, increase protective factors, and reduce risk.</li> <li>9. Support harm reduction efforts to safely collect and dispose of unused and unwanted prescription drugs in order to reduce the risk of spreading infection. Purchase additional Take Back drop boxes.</li> <li>10. Encourage schools to participate in the Indiana Youth Survey.</li> </ol>
3. In Starke County, both the youth and adult populations have a low perception of harm when discussing alcohol use/abuse. Underage drinking and driving are two serious concerns in Starke County.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Educate adults about the harm and potential danger of alcohol misuse, including the effect it can have on youth development.</li> <li>2. Support classroom evidence-based health curriculum that addresses alcohol and related issues.</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Provide curriculum to middle/high schools to promote healthy choices, increase protective factors, and reduce risk factors.</li> <li>4. Support a resolute Certified Prevention Specialist at each school. Assist with training and certification requirements.</li> <li>5. Continue to encourage local schools to participate in the Indiana Youth Survey.</li> <li>6. Prevention strategies for underage drinking as classroom curriculum.</li> <li>7. Develop content for Matters of Substance podcast and WVLP broadcast to educate the public on the topics of prevention/treatment/recovery of alcohol use/misuse.</li> </ol>
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#### Step 4: Develop SMART Goal Statements

<b>Problem Statement #1: Marijuana</b>
<b>Goal 1</b> The LCC will continue to sponsor, fund, and help implement evidence-based interventions and educational opportunities as well as increase the amount of prevention activity concerning the risk of use/abuse of Marijuana, cannabinoids, and nicotine substances and their related products. The data will be used from the Indiana Youth Survey and Indiana Department of Health database.
<b>Goal 2</b> The LCC will encourage and increase participation in the Indiana Youth Survey, which is conducted every two years. The LCC will also conduct qualitative community inquiry into substance use/misuse behaviors in the county, with a specific focus on marijuana use in youth (ages 11-18).
<b>Problem Statement #2: Illicit Drugs</b>
<b>Goal 1</b> The LCC will increase and maintain advertising, educational interventions, podcast production and dissemination, as well as continue to publish the annual county epidemiological profile along with smaller, more specific trend and data analysis reports. These endeavors will subsequently increase community awareness of the problems associated with illicit and prescription drug misuse, as well as provide the public with information on resources for recovery and resources for treatment of substance misuse and substance use disorders.
<b>Goal 2</b> The LCC will maintain and monitor the series of Naloxone Boxes in the county that provides free naloxone to the community. The LCC will also provide awareness of the availability of naloxone in the community, as well as promote naloxone training.
<b>Problem Statement #3: Alcohol</b>

**Goal 1**

The LCC will increase collaboration with schools to support education and resources for youth to promote abstinence from underage drinking, as well as work with schools to provide better alternative options to disciplinary actions that can often promote more risky behavior and further substance misuse. The LCC will continue to promote intervention targeted at parents with low perception of harm of underaged drinking.

**Goal 2**

The LCC will work with law enforcement and other community stakeholders to decrease drunk driving incidents in the county, and more specifically the larger cities and towns in the community. The LCC will increase support of evidence-based drunk driving prevention activity and intervention. The LCC will further work to increase data infrastructure to better monitor drunk driving incidents.

**Step 5: Plans to Achieve Goals**

Problem Statement #1 Marijuana	Steps
<p><b>Goal 1</b></p> <p>The LCC will continue to sponsor, fund, and help implement evidence-based interventions and educational opportunities as well as increase the amount of prevention activity concerning the risk of use/abuse of Marijuana, cannabinoids, and nicotine substances and their related products. The data will be used from the Indiana Youth Survey and Indiana Department of Health database.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Educate elected officials on the effects of marijuana use by providing them with epidemiological data.</li> <li>2. Encourage scheduled visits with legislators for professional coalition members and community members.</li> <li>3. Support educational efforts about the mental health risks, prenatal consequences, and brain science of marijuana use.</li> <li>4. Establish focus groups and peer panels in the local area schools to collect data and monitor trends.</li> <li>5. Encourage schools to participate in the Indiana Youth Survey for the purpose of collecting data on marijuana, cannabinoids, and nicotine use.</li> <li>6. Support youth mentoring initiatives with an emphasis on at-risk youth in elementary through high school to increase protective factors and decrease risk factors for substance use/abuse.</li> <li>7. Develop and execute town hall events to support evidence of the risks of Marijuana for elementary aged youth, pre-natal and pregnant populations.</li> </ol>

	8. Support substance use education and trending topics related to marijuana and nicotine through partnerships with the Matters of Substance podcast and mass communication efforts to increase environmental reach.
<b>Goal 2</b> The LCC will encourage and increase participation in the Indiana Youth Survey, which is conducted every two years. The LCC will also conduct qualitative community inquiry into substance use/misuse behaviors in the county, with a specific focus on marijuana use in youth (ages 11-18).	1. Conduct focus groups with at-risk youth and other groups of county youth to find trends in marijuana use, marijuana acquisition, and other related health behaviors. Develop timeline. 2. Collaborate with school administration to advocate for Participation in the Indiana Youth Survey, explaining the benefits of having it administered every other year. 3. Hold Town hall meetings with community members and other stakeholders to better address the issues the community feels most pressing.
<b>Problem Statement #2 Illicit Drugs</b>	<b>Steps</b>
<b>Goal 1</b> The LCC will increase and maintain advertising, educational interventions, podcast production and dissemination, as well as continue to publish the annual county epidemiological report along with smaller, more specific trend and data analysis reports. These endeavors will subsequently increase community awareness of the problems associated with illicit and prescription drug misuse, as well as provide the public with information on resources for recovery and resources for treatment of substance misuse and substance use disorders.	1. Promote the use of the INSPECT prescription database system by doctors and law enforcement to reduce overprescribing of medications. 2. Build capacity by partnering with coalition member agencies. 3. Partner with treatment agencies to provide innovative and useful programming to address the psychological, emotional impact of incarceration – family engagement, art, and music therapy; as well as skill building to increase employment opportunities upon release. 4. Support law enforcement and justice for arrest, conviction, rehabilitation of offender. Including but not limited to additional patrols, social worker placement, PARRI/Deflection Academy and recovery support. 5. Support and encourage therapeutic and/or alternative treatment evidence-based programming to

	<p>address Fentanyl, Opioid, Meth, Heroin, prescription opioids, and other illicit drug use/abuse with an emphasis on target populations such as veterans.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Encourage and support recovery and mutual aid groups, as well as the formation of new ones.</li> <li>7. Support stigma-based reduction programs and campaigns.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Goal 2</b></p> <p>The LCC will maintain and monitor the series of Naloxone Boxes in the county that provides free naloxone to the community. The LCC will also provide awareness of the availability of naloxone in the community, as well as promote naloxone training.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote awareness of the naloxone boxes in the county that are available and free to use in the county.</li> <li>2. Continue to provide naloxone training to institutions and members of the public and promote carrying naloxone.</li> <li>3. Continue to foster and create relationships with representatives of the 12 sectors to increase awareness and find new potential sites for naloxone boxes.</li> </ol>
<b>Problem Statement #3 Alcohol</b>	<b>Steps</b>
<p><b>Goal 1</b></p> <p>The LCC will increase collaboration with schools to support education and resources for youth to promote abstinence from underage drinking, as well as work with schools to provide better alternative options to disciplinary actions that can often promote more risky behavior and further substance misuse. The LCC will continue to promote intervention targeted at parents with low perception of harm of underaged drinking. Focus on adult alcohol reduction through evidence-based programs and strategies.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support and encourage therapeutic programming that focuses on use and/or abuse of alcohol with an emphasis on target populations such as veterans.</li> <li>2. Increase law enforcement capacity and provide technological tools to assist in identifying impaired drivers and assessing environments.</li> <li>3. Encourage and support alternative treatment programming for alcohol related offenders through problem solving courts and other diversionary programming.</li> <li>4. Support stigma-based reduction programs and campaigns.</li> <li>5. Encourage and support formation/expansion of recovery groups and alternative peer groups to aid those individuals struggling with substance use disorder. Develop RCO using Faces and Voices model</li> </ol>

	<p>and credentialed through Indiana Recovery Network – MHAI.</p> <p>6. Encourage and support programs that serve individuals in recovery as a means to increase protective factors against substance use disorder.</p>
<p><b>Goal 2</b></p> <p>The LCC will work with law enforcement and other community stakeholders to decrease drunk driving incidents in the county, and more specifically the larger cities and towns in the community. The LCC will increase support of evidence-based drunk driving prevention activity and intervention. The LCC will further work to increase data infrastructure to better monitor drunk driving incidents.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote alcohol awareness and/or educational programs/strategies.</li> <li>2. Support youth mentoring initiatives with an emphasis on at-risk youth in elementary through high school to increase protective factors and decrease risk factors for substance use and family preservation.</li> <li>3. Support programs that educate parents of their importance in modeling responsible consumption of alcohol in the presence of their children.</li> <li>4. Encourage schools to participate in the Indiana Youth Survey for the purpose of collecting data on alcohol use.</li> <li>5. Support education and all efforts related to substance use through partnership with the Matters of Substance podcast and WVLP radio stream. Increase efforts to provide environmental outreach strategies.</li> <li>6. Support a youth council to promote leadership, peer training, and a school-based initiative encouraging mental and behavioral wellness, healthy choices, increasing protective factors, and reducing risk factors for substance use/abuse. Provide scholarships, national training, and leadership opportunities.</li> </ol>

#### IV. Fund Document

Funding Profile		
1	Amount deposited into the County DFC Fund from fees collected last year:	\$24,000.00
2	Amount of unused funds from last year that will roll over into this year:	\$0.00
3	Total funds available for programs and administrative costs for this year (Line 1 + Line 2):	24,000.00
4	Amount of funds granted last year:	\$38,000.00
Additional Funding Sources (if no money is received, please enter \$0.00)		
A	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA):	\$0.00
B	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):	\$125,000.00
C	Bureau of Justice Administration (BJA):	\$0.00
D	Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP):	\$0.00
E	Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH):	\$0.00
F	Indiana Department of Education (DOE):	\$0.00
G	Indiana Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA):	\$0.00
H	Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA):	\$0.00
I	Local entities:	\$0.00
J	Other:	\$0.00
Categorical Funding Allocations		
Prevention/Education: \$6,000.00	Intervention/Treatment: \$6,000.00	Justice Services: \$6,000.00
Funding allotted to administrative costs:		
<i>Itemized list of what is being funded</i>		\$6,000.00
Coordinator Compensation		\$6,000.00
Funding Allocations by Goal per Problem Statement:		
Problem Statement #1	Problem Statement #2	Problem Statement #3
Goal 1: \$2,500.00	Goal 1: \$4,500.00	Goal 1: \$4,500.00
Goal 2: \$1,000.00	Goal 2: \$1,500.00	Goal 2: \$4,000.00