Effective Approaches for Youth Substance Use Prevention

Elizabeth Weybright, PhD

Associate Professor, Human Development

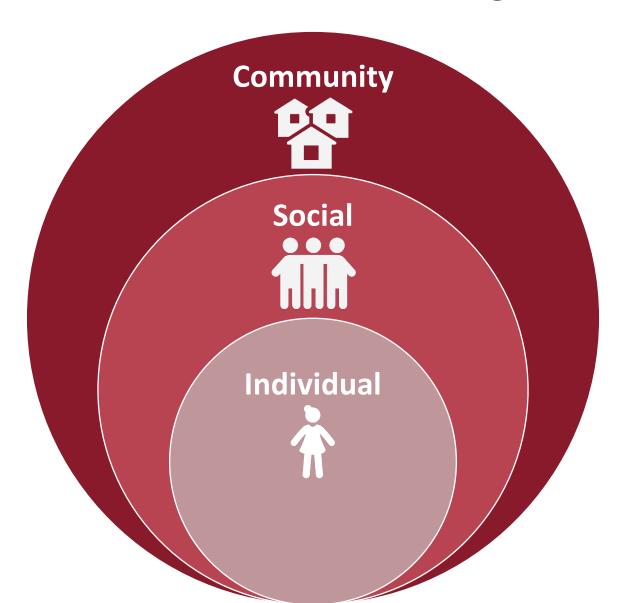
Interim Director, Extension Youth and Families Unit

March 18, 2021

House Commerce and Gaming Committee Work Session

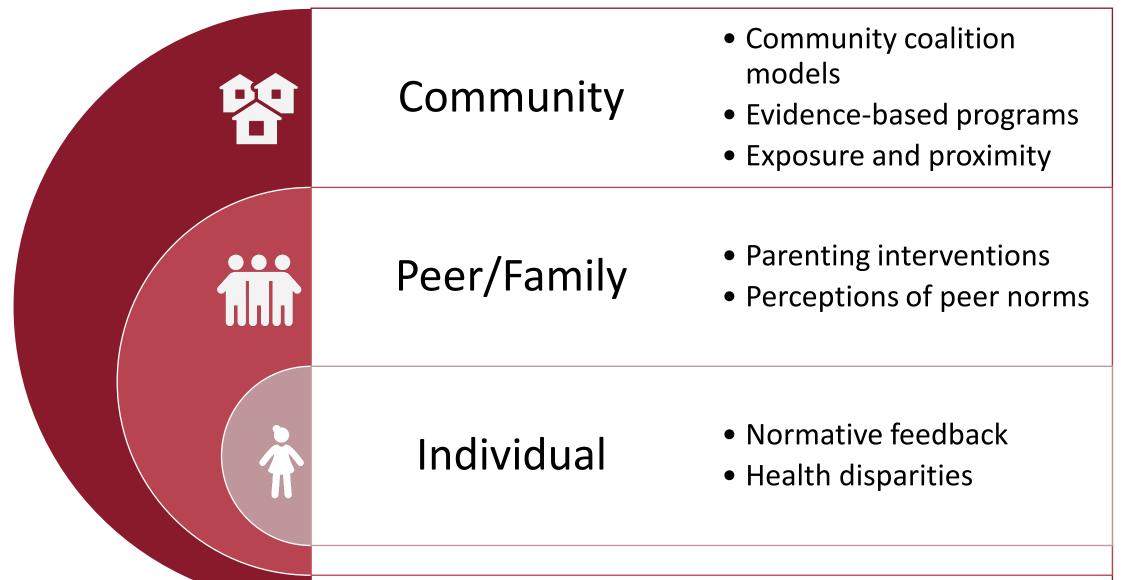


Youth Substance Use: Ecological Systems





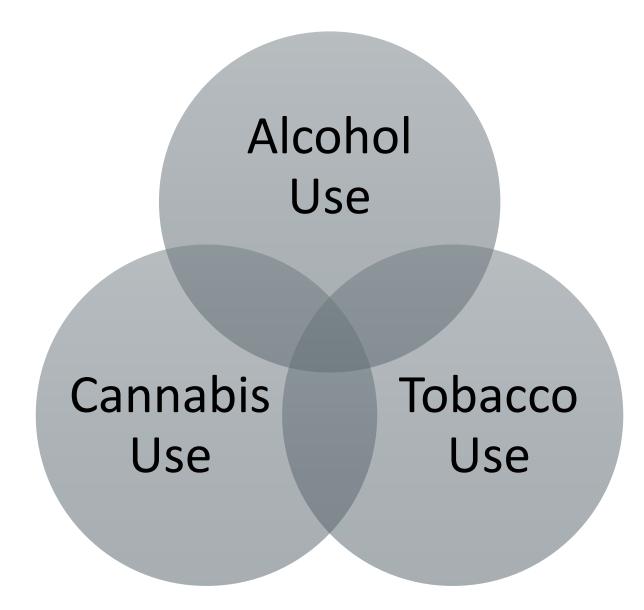
Youth Substance Use: Research & Programs





Shared Risk and Protective Factors







Select Individual Risk/Protective Factors



- * Favorable attitudes towards substance use
- **Early** initiation of substance use
- Loss of cultural identity

- ✓ Positive self concept
- ✓ Cultural identity and connection
- ✓ Engagement in positive meaningful activities



Personalized Normative Feedback



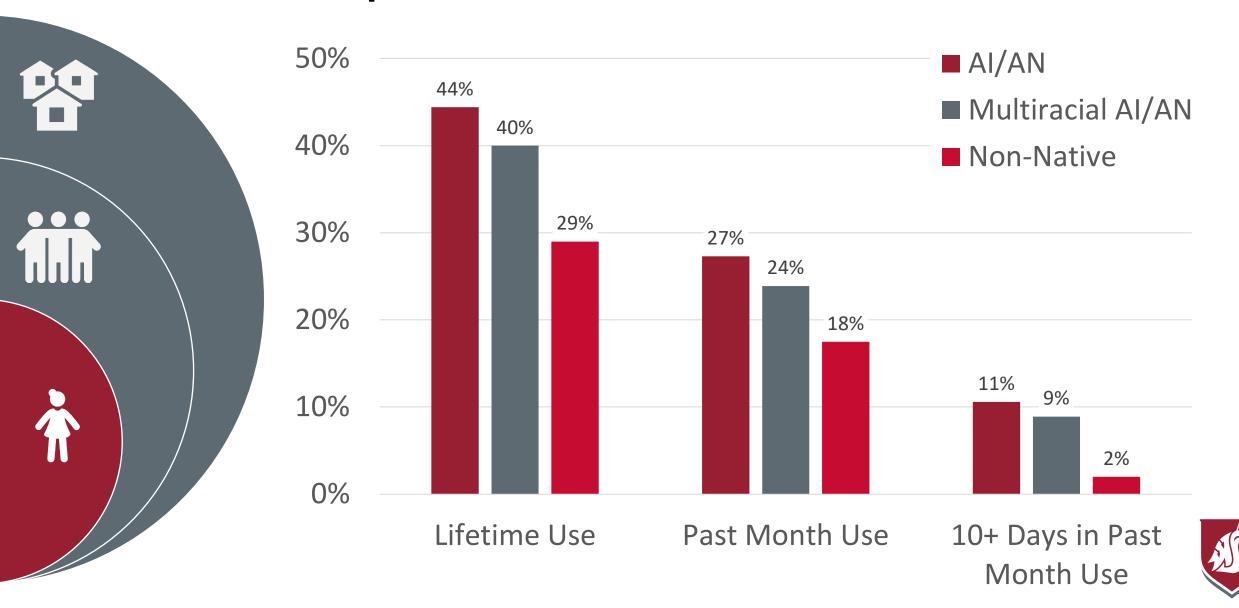
In the last month, how often do you think a typical student at your school used marijuana?



You told us you believe... Most young people your age have never used drugs or alcohol.



Health Disparities in Youth Cannabis Use



Select Family/Peer Factors



- * Favorable attitudes toward substance use
- Family management problems
- Family conflict

- ✓ Connection to family
- ✓ Positive parenting style
- ✓ Higher parental expectations about school



Parent-Child Relationships in Early Adolescence



Who is coming? Program participation is greater in communities with:

- 1 prevention programs offered
- 1 perceived availability of substances

What are the outcomes? Improvement from preto post-test on:

- family management
- better outcomes for families who struggle with conflict and rewarding prosocial behaviors



Parent-Child Relationships in Early Adolescence

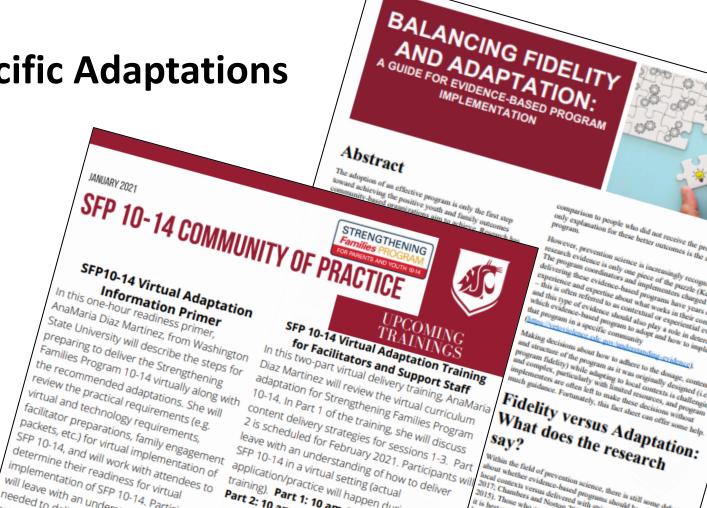


Training and Technical Assistance

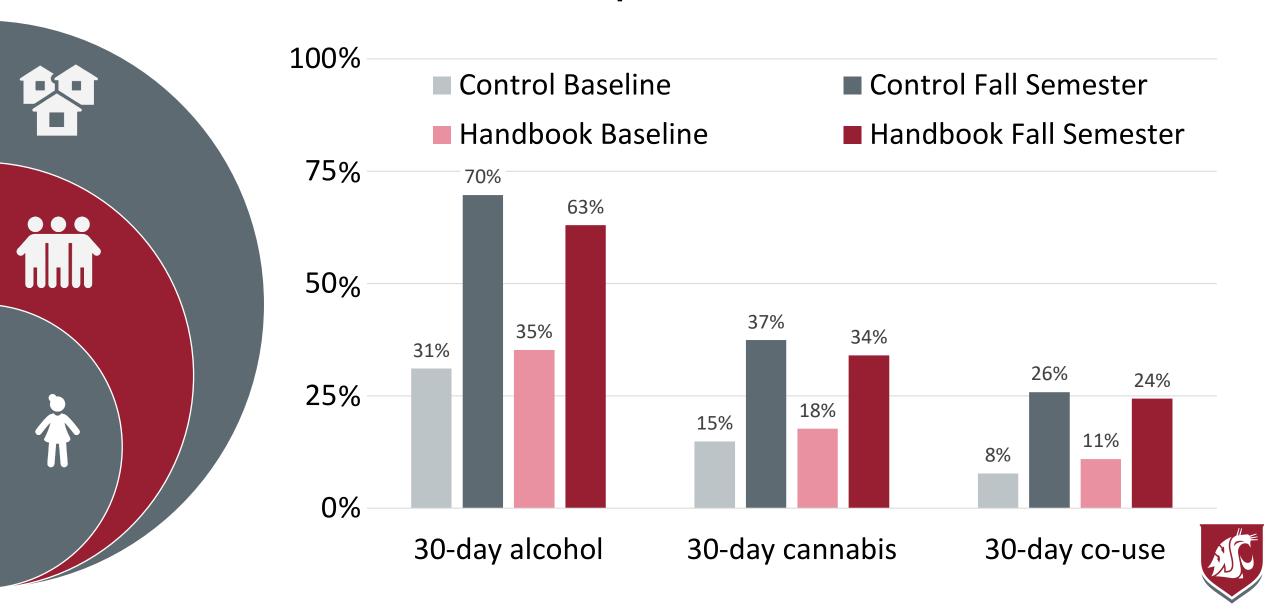
Substance Specific Adaptations

Cannabis

Opioids



Parent-Child Relationships in Late Adolescence



Social Media Sharing of Cannabis Content



What were they posting?

- 31% shared cannabis content online
- memes (24%), pictures (13%), video (11%)

Posting on social media is associated with:

- 1 peer cannabis use
- 1 perceived parent approval
- perceived parental monitoring, but not media monitoring



Select Community Risk/Protective Factors

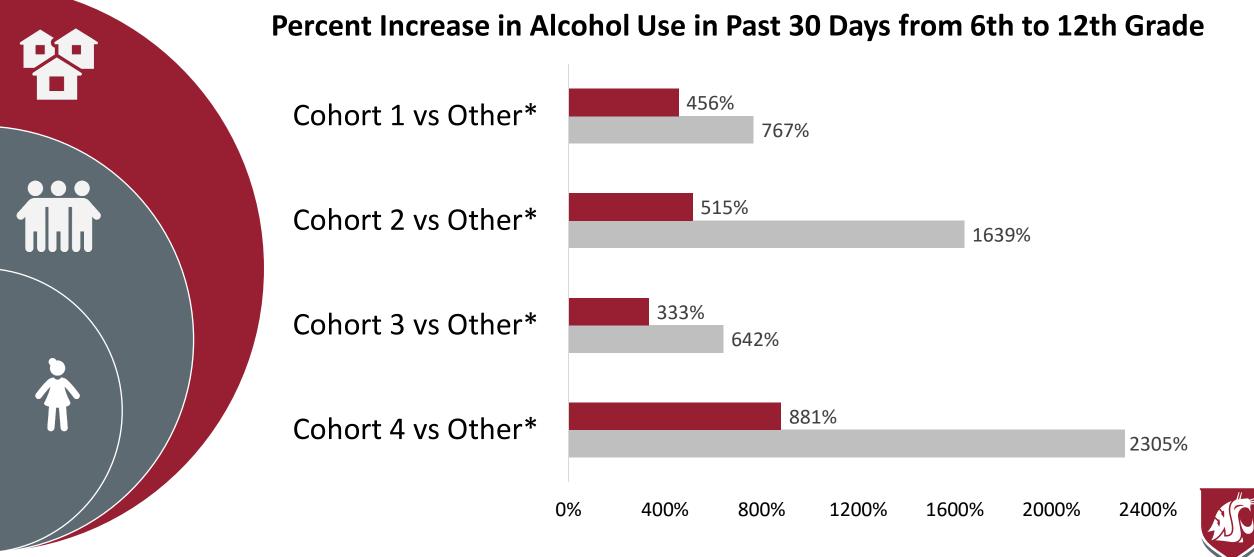


- Availability of alcohol and other drugs
- Community laws and norms favorable to drug use
- Low neighborhood attachment

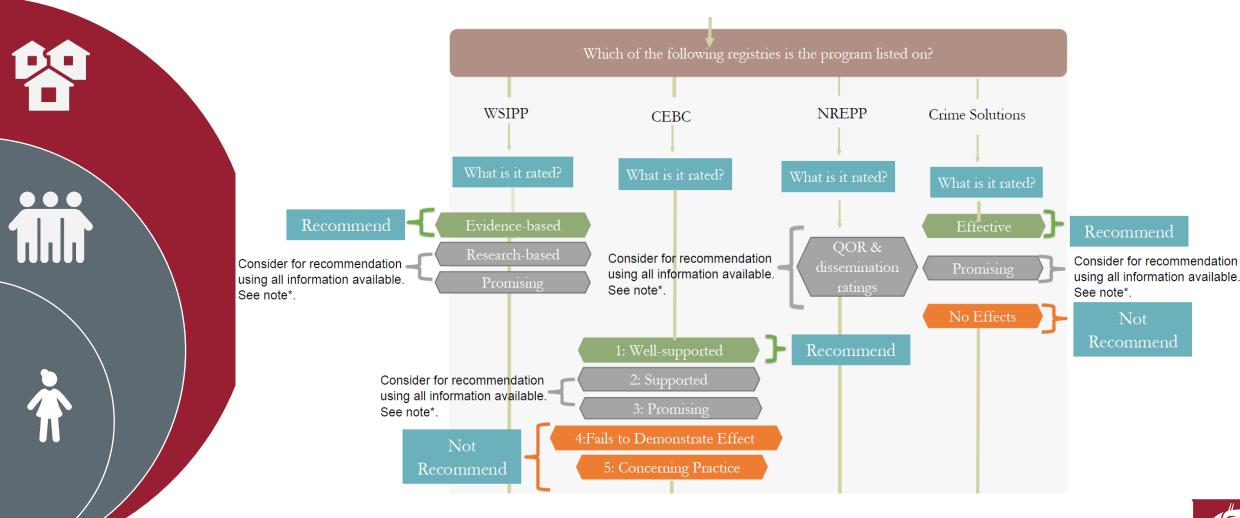
- ✓ Connection to other positive adults
- ✓ Strong community infrastructure
- ✓ Policies that support healthy norms and youth programs



Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative



Evidence-Based Program Decision Tool





Exposure and Proximity to Cannabis



What is the impact of proximity to cannabis retailers?

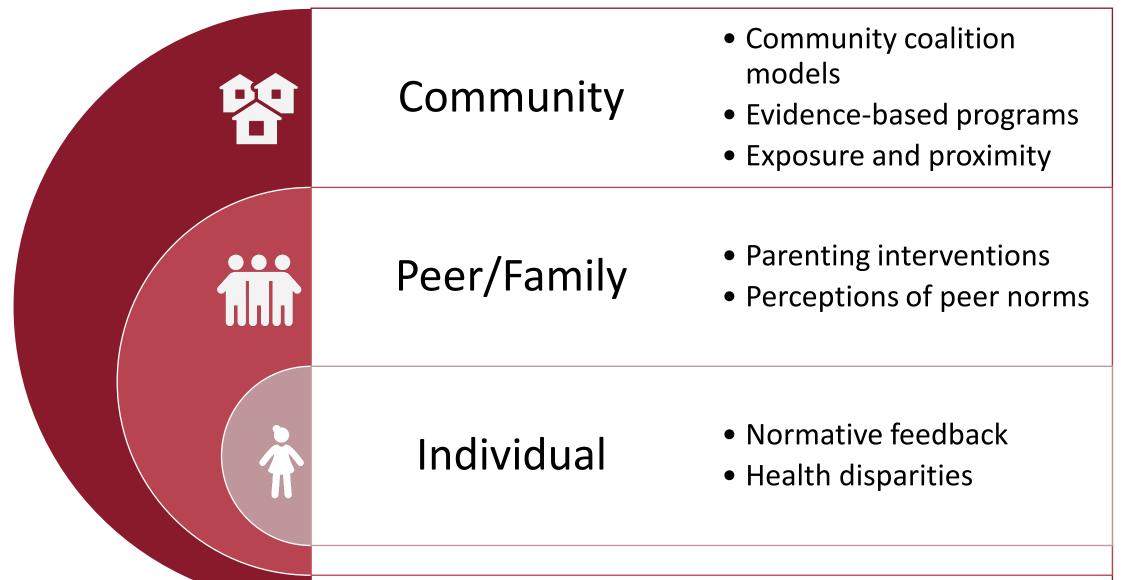
- Density alone was not associated with intentions to use
- 1 intentions to use for those with *perceived* proximity

What is the impact of exposure to cannabis advertising?

1 intentions to use, especially for those with greater distance from a retailer



Youth Substance Use: Research & Programs





Thank you

elizabeth.weybright@wsu.edu



Adolescent Substance Use

Community Risk Factors

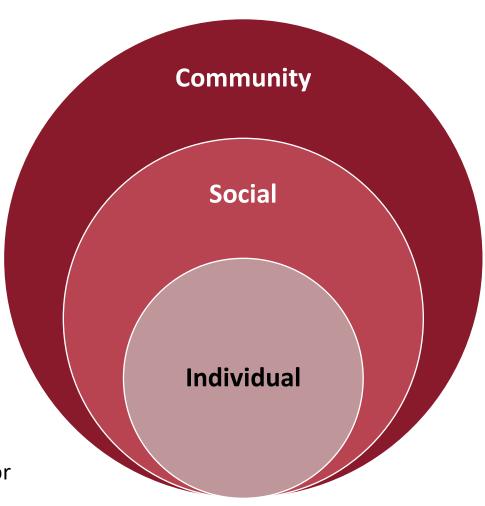
- Availability of alcohol/other drugs
- Low neighborhood attachment
- Community disorganization
- Community laws and norms favorable to drug use

Social Risk Factors

- **×** Family management problems
- **×** Family history of substance use
- **×** Family conflict
- Favorable parental attitudes toward substance use

<u>Individual Risk Factors</u>

- Early initiation of substance use
- Loss of cultural identity
- Early/persistent antisocial behavior
- Favorable attitudes toward substance use



Community Protective Factors

- ✓ Connection to other positive adults
- ✓ Strong community infrastructure Policies that support healthy norms
- ✓ Policies that support youth programs

Social Protective Factors

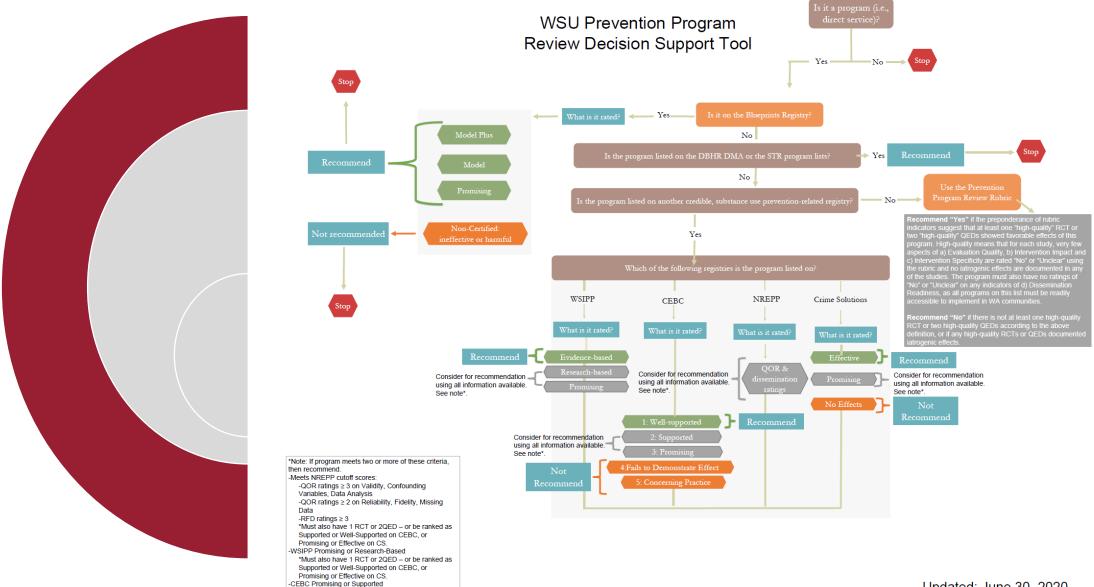
- ✓ Connection to family
- ✓ Positive parenting style
- ✓ Higher parental education
- ✓ Higher parental expectations about school

<u>Individual Protective Factors</u>

- Engagement in positive meaningful activities
- ✓ Positive self concept
- ✓ Religious or spiritual beliefs
- ✓ Cultural identify/connection



Evidence-Based Program Registry





Updated: June 30, 2020