

The Problem

Substance abuse is not a problem that is unique to Dover. Every community across the country faces drug abuse problems.

Through student surveys, Dover has been able to collect data to help us focus our efforts. This information allows us to develop prevention programs and strategies targeting the most commonly abused substances among teens in our community.

Alcohol has consistently been the most commonly abused substance with over 30% of high school students reporting that they drank in the last 30 days.

This is followed by **Marijuana** use. We have seen significant increases in use over the last few years.

Tobacco use was once a significant problem but has leveled off around 20% of high school students using.



Prescription Drug abuse is a growing trend with one in five students reporting having taken a prescription without a doctor's permission in their lifetime.

Make A Difference

Be a part of the solution. Please visit our website for more information on the Coalition or contact us if you would like to get involved.

Dover Coalition for Youth
www.DoverCoalition.org
603.516.3279



The Coalition has nominated and Dover has been recognized as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People.



Providing comprehensive and coordinated drug prevention efforts for the citizens of Dover.

The Coalition is part of the Dover Police Department's Community Outreach Bureau.

The Coalition

The Dover Coalition for Youth is a non-profit community organization tasked with improving the quality of life in Dover for youth and families by preventing the harm caused by substance abuse.

No one agency, business, or program can solve the complex issues associated with substance abuse. The Coalition is the means by which we bring all of the potential community resources and partners to the table, including parents, schools, police, the recreation community, businesses, religious leaders, health and social services, the media, and youth.

The Coalition promotes a cooperative approach to prevention that results in a consistent strategy and message about alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. This will insure, for example, that kids are not getting conflicting messages about alcohol from their coaches, DARE Officers, teachers, and parents. The Coalition has accomplished this by undertaking initiatives with its partners in the community.



What We Do

The Dover Coalition for Youth has a variety of programs aimed at reducing substance abuse among youth and, over time, among adults. The programs are designed to provide a local solution to a local problem. This is accomplished in a variety of ways, some of which include:

- *Enhancing Skills of Parents and Adults:* for example nearly 100 parents each year attend a 6 hour training program that helps them develop skills in talking to their kids about drugs.
- *Educating and Engaging Youth:* such as through educational presentations given to over 1,200 students in the Dover School System each year.
- *Public Information Campaigns:* such as a social norming campaign that focused on the fact that the majority of Dover students don't use drugs.



- *Promoting Programs that Limit Youth Access:* as in our drug take back events where adults can safely dispose of unused or unneeded medications.
- *Modify Policies:* for example working to pass a state law making it illegal to host an underage drinking party even if you didn't provide the alcohol.

