

# Substance Use & Abuse Pathway Overview



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## BURDEN OF SUBSTANCE USE

The misuse and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, illegal, and prescription drugs affects the health and well-being of millions of Americans. Preventing the use of illegal substances and encouraging responsible use of legal substances such as tobacco and alcohol is an important step in creating a healthy community. The Substance Use Pathway helps communities address these issues and create substance free communities where people can thrive.

## SUBSTANCE USE & ABUSE PATHWAY GOAL

To change social norms around substance use and abuse through the implementation of policy, systems, and environmental change strategies that support decreased tobacco use and exposure, decrease illegal substance use and abuse, and decreased alcohol consumption.

## STRATEGIES TO REDUCE SUBSTANCE USE & ABUSE

- Enhance enforcement of alcohol and tobacco sales to minors
- Adopt tobacco-free policies that include e-cigarettes and outdoor venues
- Narcan Administration Programs
- Distribution of Addiction Recovery Packets
- Prescription drug drop-off and “take back” programs
- First time offender diversion programs
- Community education and youth engagement in substance use and abuse prevention strategies