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Weber-Morgan Health Department Seeks Proposals to Address Youth Use of E-cigarettes, Marijuana, and Other Drugs

(Ogden, UT) – The Weber-Morgan Health Department (WMHD) is seeking proposals for projects that address root causes and factors associated with the youth use of electronic cigarettes, marijuana, and other drugs. In the midst of urgent issues, including COVID-19, we need to continue making progress on important and critical issues. Substance misuse/abuse continue to be an important public health concern contributing to morbidity and mortality rates. Evidence shows that the initiation of substance use in adolescence can lead to higher levels of misuse, abuse, and substance use disorders later in life.

Since 2011, vaping rates among Utah youth have increased 553%.¹ Thirty-three percent of 8th-12th graders in Weber-Morgan Counties have tried vaping. In addition to vaping, other substance misuse is happening in Weber-Morgan Counties. About one in every two 12th graders in Weber-Morgan Counties have tried alcohol.¹ Sixteen percent of Weber-Morgan Counties 12th graders use marijuana regularly.¹ Some of the top risk factors for Weber-Morgan youth include early Initiation of anti-social behavior, laws & norms favorable to drug use, perceived availability of drugs, perceived risk of drugs, and academic failure.¹

WMHD is interested in working with, and supporting, community coalitions and organizations in the early prevention of adverse outcomes related to youth substance abuse by providing annual grants to eligible applicants anywhere from \$10,000 - \$100,000 per grant. The aim of this funding is to identify innovative projects and partnerships across Weber and Morgan counties who are committed to addressing “upstream” factor by focusing on one or more risk or protective factors identified in the Utah Student Health and Risk Prevention Statewide Survey.

Please make sure to [download the Request for Proposal](#) for more details on the criteria of the grants. [Project applications](#) will be due no later than 11:59 PM September 21, 2020.

For more information and a link to a virtual Q&A session please visit our website or contact Kristi Jones kjones@co.weber.ut.us; 801-399-7184.

1. Utah Prevention Needs Assessment Survey. Student Health and Risk Prevention (SHARP) Statewide Survey. 2019. <https://dsamh.utah.gov/reports/sharp-survey>.

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