



## Spink County Coalition

The Spink County Coalition currently operates under a Partnership for Success Grant (PFS) for underage alcohol prevention. Recognizing that local problems require local solutions, The Coalition mobilizes communities within Spink County to prevent youth substance use by implementing evidenced-based, data-driven strategies.

The Spink County Coalition is committed to supporting healthy lifestyle choices through education, collaborative planning, and community involvement.

The Coalition has been focused on preventing substance abuse problems and other related issues in the community, but plans to expand the scope of activities to include a more holistic approach to health and safety of the residents of Spink County.



### The Issue

In 2010, 23.7% of 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Redfield School reported use of alcohol in the past 30 days. Thirty-day tobacco use in 2010 for grades 7-12 was 20.4%. Binge drinking (5 or more drinks within a few hours) was 11.9%.

(Redfield School Pride Survey December 2010)

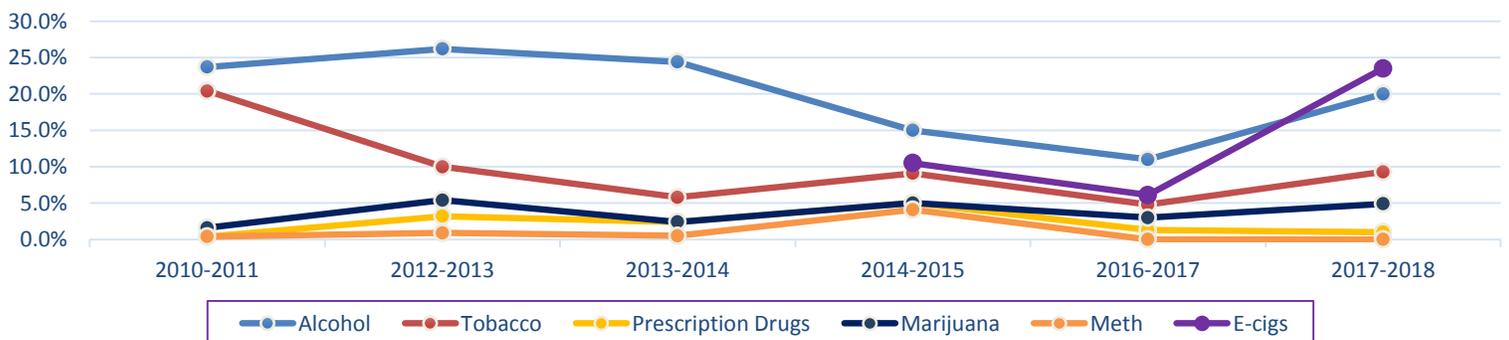
### The Trends

According to the comparisons from the Pride Surveys done in the Redfield School in 2010 and 2015, alcohol use among students in grades 7-12 decreased from 23.7% to 15.0% and binge drinking from 11.9% to 4.5%. However, the 2017 and 2018 Pride Surveys showed increases to 18% and 28% for 30 day use and increased back to 11% in 2018 for binge drinking.

Monthly underage tobacco use has also decreased, according to the same survey, from 20.4% to 9.3% in 2018. However, we have seen a marked increase in vaping from 10.5% in 2015 to 23.5% in 2018.

Spink County Coalition Partners know their efforts to inform youth and adults about the risks involved in underage alcohol, tobacco and other drug use are making a difference in our communities, but there is much more to accomplish! These changes happened because of the hard work of many community partners and the implementation of evidence-based programs and strategies in our schools and communities in Spink County.

**30-Day Reported Use Trends  
Redfield School 7th-12th Grades  
Pride Surveys 2010-2018**





## The Response

The Spink County Coalition Partners take an active role in addressing the problem of youth substance use through prevention strategies targeting youth in the schools, community institutions, and policies. These strategies include:

- **Project SUCCESS Prevention Program** to educate youth about the risk of alcohol and tobacco use, provide youth leadership opportunities, and offer substance-free activities in the Redfield Public School, be a prevention resource for school and community and look at school and community level substance abuse policies and practices.
- **Assisting the Sheriff's Office with compliance checks and beverage server training** to reduce youth access to retail sources of alcohol and increase enforcement of existing alcohol laws as well as partnering to sponsor National Night Out in Redfield and Brentford.
- **Partner with the Redfield Park and Recreation Department to secure grants that improve the health of the communities' residents.**

In addition, the Spink County Coalition seeks to increase community awareness of substance use and related problems and promote the message that adolescent drinking and drug use is *everyone's* problem. Informing parents and other community members about the issue is an essential step in preventing youth substance use.

## Accomplishments

Looking at the accomplishments the Spink County Coalition has helped to produce, the Coalition's impact is evident. The Spink County Coalition is making a difference. Check out these accomplishments!

- Worked with the Spink County Sheriff's Office to support, coordinate, and increase compliance checks in the community.
- Implemented Project SUCCESS at the Redfield School reaching about 300 students by providing educational classes, referrals, individual and group sessions and school-wide awareness projects
- Facilitate a SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) Chapter
- Started a Narcotics Anonymous Support Group in Redfield
- Co-sponsored a Community Wellness Fair
- Hosted several Town Hall meetings on underage alcohol, meth, and opioid issues
- Created a Community Crisis Response Support Team

## Your Help is Needed!

In May 2019, the Spink County Coalition Prevention funding may end. Unless we can secure community support through existing and new community partnerships, the gains we have seen in our community may be threatened.

Funding is needed to continue providing the Project SUCCESS prevention program in our school, the Coordinator position and to continue our Coalition activities and events as well. The benefits of continued funding will provide opportunities for the community to continue to gain momentum with the goal of reducing youth substance abuse.

## Community Partners in Spink County

- ★ Community Memorial Hospital
- ★ Northeast Mental Health
- ★ NE South Dakota Area Health Education Center
- ★ Redfield Area Ministerial Association
- ★ Redfield Park & Recreation
- ★ Redfield Public School
- ★ Redfield SADD Adult Advisory Board
- ★ South Dakota Developmental Center
- ★ Spink County Sheriff's Office
- ★ Spink County Public Health
- ★ Three Wise Women Counseling Services



**Representatives from these organizations and businesses working together to reduce substance abuse in Spink County.**

## Contact

### Le Ann Wasmoen, Coordinator

Spink County Coalition  
Box 560  
Redfield, SD 57469  
Phone: 472-4520 (work)  
450-1385 (cell)  
leann.wasmoen@k12.sd.us

### Pastor Tammy Toepke-Floyd Chairperson

Spink County Coalition  
United Church of Christ  
125 East 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Redfield, SD 57469  
Phone: (605) 472-1590  
uccredfield@abe.midco.net