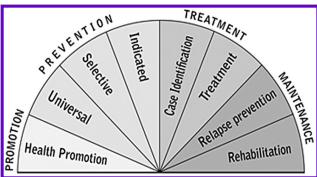


Cost Benefit Analysis of Prevention Services





Prevention is Cost Effective

- ⇒ Every dollar invested in <u>research-based</u> <u>prevention</u> has the potential to save from \$2.00 to \$20.00 in areas such as drug abuse treatment, overall health care, educational system and criminal justice system costs. [Swisher]
- ⇒ For every dollar invested in research based prevention programs, a savings of \$10.00 in treatment costs alone can be realized. [Levy]
- ⇒ The cost savings from helping just one high-risk youth graduate from high school, avoid heavy drugs and not engage in crime would range between \$1.7 and \$2.3 MILLION dollars. [Levy]
- ⇒ \$2.88 saved for every dollar spent on environmental strategies. [Holder]
- ⇒ No matter what part of the continuum of care was evaluated, there are <u>SIGNIFICANT</u> <u>SAVINGS</u> when prevention strategies are implemented.

Substance Abuse is Expensive

The total overall costs of substance abuse in the U.S., including productivity, health and crime related costs, exceed \$600 BILLION annually. [CSAP]

Breakdown by substance:

- \$235 BILLION for alcohol
- \$193 BILLION for tobacco
- \$193 BILLION for illicit drugs

Cost of Adolescent Alcohol Use

- ⇒ The younger the youth is when drinking begins, the more likely addiction will occur.
 - 1 of 10 who begin drinking as adults, 21 or older, will suffer addiction.
 - 1 in 4 who begin drinking around age 17 will suffer addiction.
 - 1 in 3 who begin drinking around age 16 will suffer addiction.

[Hingson, NIDA]

- ⇒ Early drinkers are the least likely to seek help for alcohol disorders and addiction.
- ⇒ Those who do seek help suffer from chronic relapse, and are prone to longer episodes of relapse with more severe symptoms.
 - Higher and repeated treatment and medical costs associated with addiction in individuals who begin using before age 21.

[Hingson, NIDA]

- ⇒ Young drinkers are more likely to injure self and others after drinking.
- ⇒ 46% of <u>ALL</u> patients on life support in trauma centers across the US are there as a result of drinking.
 - Higher costs associated with trauma and medical expenses, pain and suffering, property damage, lost productivity, lost quality of life and lost wages.

[Hingson, NIDA]

- ⇒ Youth using alcohol are 3 times more likely to commit a violent offense.
 - Higher costs associated with police services, school security and discipline, litigation and the judicial system, family services.

[Hingson, NIDA]

- ⇒ Youth drinkers are more likely to die as a result of their drinking.
- ⇒ Injuries are the leading cause of death among youth and alcohol is the leading contributor to these accidents.

KENTUCKY ALCOHOL POLICY ALLIANCE

Alcohol is Kentucky's No. 1 Youth Drug Problem

Underage Drinking Risks

- **Death** 5,000 youth die every year from alcohol-related incidents
- Brain Development Damage to the developing brain, heart and liver
- Alcohol Dependence The younger teens drink, the more likely they are to become alcohol dependent and drinking drivers
- Memory Loss 1 in 5 KY 12th graders have reported blacking out from drinking or drug use

2012 KIP Survey and 2013 National Institutes of Health

Youth Tell Us

- 73% of 12th graders say it is easy to get beer, wine or hard liquor
- **34%** of 12th graders say they have used alcohol in the past 30-days
- **28%** of 12th graders report they have been drunk in the past 30-days
- **21%** of 12th graders have reported binge drinking in the past two-weeks

2012 KIP Survey

