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Coalition Coordinator Rudy Garza (far right) was joined on the panel by (L-R) Reagan Price, Judy Blair and Louise Parker.

### NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

**Agenda**  
TBD

## Prevention Summit – “Imagine...Innovate...Inspire”

The annual Washington State Prevention Summit, presented by the Washington State Health Care Authority, was held in Yakima, WA November 5-6. Attended by members of the more than 80-prevention coalitions from throughout the state, the Summit's theme of “Imagine...Innovate...Inspire”, served as the backdrop for two days of key note speakers, workshops and presentations, for both youth and adults.

Among the general sessions offered, Coalition Coordinator Rudy Garza served as moderator for a panel discussion focused on Cultural Awareness/Racial Equity. Panelists included Judy Blair, Anti-Racism Facilitator and Coash with Anti-Racism At Work, LLC and Reagan Price, Anti-Racism Strategist & Facilitator, also with Anti-Racism At Work, LLC; and Louise Parker, PhD, Professor, Washington State University.

The panel responded to questions posed by the moderator, then invited the audience to submit their own questions as well as to share their own experiences or opinions of topics being discussed.

As the HCA session coordinator stated, this panel discussion is the first in the continued open discussion and presentations on the subject of cultural awareness/racial equity.

## Marijuana/Vaping Issues

The questions around marijuana and vaping continue to underscore the lack of understanding and misinformation among both adults and youth.

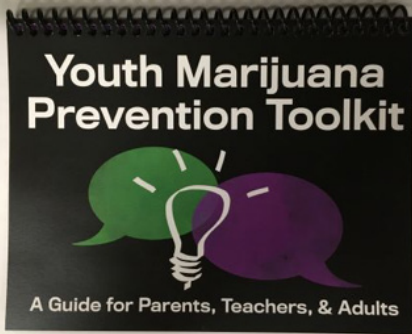
To provide some clarity, the King County Youth Marijuana Prevention & Education Program (KC-YMPEP) has created a toolkit adapted from the “Marijuana Prevention Toolkit: A Guide for Parents, Teachers and Adults” developed by the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department and the Pierce County Prevention Collaborative.

KC-YMPEP is a regional effort led by Public Health-Seattle & King County Department of Community and Human Services, with Dedicated Marijuana Account funding allocated by the Washington State Department of Health.

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Coalition for Drug-Free Youth educates, inspires and empowers our community to support youth and create a safe, healthy environment aimed at addressing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug problems.



## Marijuana/Vaping Issues Continued

The Toolkit, designed specifically for adults, is intended to:

- Educate adults on the laws around marijuana use in Washington State.
- Provide health and safety information on youth marijuana use.
- Help adults identify and recognize various marijuana products and marijuana.

**For copies of the Toolkit, contact Coalition Coordinator Rudy Garza at: [rgarza@psed.org](mailto:rgarza@psed.org)**

In addition to this Toolkit, the Coalition has developed a power point presentation focused on marijuana and vaping, with versions speaking to parents of elementary school-aged students and for parents of older youth. To date, hundreds of cases of vaping-related illnesses and dozens of vaping-related deaths have headlined news stories across the country. The power point presentation is designed to give parents basic information on marijuana and its various forms of consumption as well as to provide some insight into vaping and its many application forms.

**The Coalition can make presentations of this power point to interested schools, youth groups and other organizations. Requests for more information or to schedule a presentation contact Coalition Coordinator Rudy Garza at: [rgarza@psed.org](mailto:rgarza@psed.org)**

## Tobacco and Vapor 21

Beginning January 1, 2010, under Engrossed House Bill 1074, it will be illegal to sell tobacco or vapor products to anyone under 21.

Including Washington State, tobacco and vapor 21 is currently the law or is due to go into effect, in 18 states as well as D.C. and Guam.

Vaping is an epidemic among young people in Washington. According to the 2018 Healthy Youth Survey, one in five Washington 10th graders and one in three 12th graders reported using vapor products.

Kids who vape are at an increased risk of initiating cigarette smoking; raising the legal age of sale will reduce the number of kids who develop a lifelong addiction to nicotine and save thousands of lives.

Tobacco kills more than 8,000 Washingtonians each year. Washingtonians can get free help to quit smoking or vaping by contacting the Washington State Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW or by accessing a smartphone app at [www.doh.wa.gov/quit](http://www.doh.wa.gov/quit). Parents and schools can find more information about how to address youth vaping at [www.youthnow.me/schools](http://www.youthnow.me/schools).

## Notes From a Prevention Team Member

Hello, my name is Josue Villalobos. I form part of the Cascade Middle School's Prevention Team. Our awesome Prevention Team members are inspired to help our community every day in any way possible.

At the moment, we have been brainstorming ideas on the type of things we would like to see in our community. Some of our plans are helping our local homeless shelter this holiday season. We are asking our school and community members (Santa's elves) to donate clothing, food, hygiene products, and blankets.

Another one of our ideas is planting native plants and clean up's at Dick Thurnau Memorial Park, adjacent to our school. We have started the planting and hope to continue this project through the academic year.

These are just some of our big and bright plans we have for helping our community. We have much more in store. Our prevention team hopes to make a mark on White Center, Cascade Middle School, and help people be drug-free by showing them that if we are drug-free, so can they.



## Prevention Team – Dick Thurnau Memorial Park

Continuing a tradition started by the 2012 Cascade Middle School Prevention Team, the 2019/2020 Team began its park cleanup and restoration campaign in conjunction with King County Parks and the White Center Kiwanis.

The Team will continue its monthly cleanup but has also embarked on planting native plants as part of the park's restoration.

Kiwanis Club member and long-time Cascade Prevention Team advocate Scott Davis joined the Prevention Team at its recent park planting session.



**King County**

Department of  
Community and Human Services

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## CONTACT

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## About Our Organization

The Coalition for Drug-Free Youth was created in 2012 as a Community Prevention and Wellness Initiative (CPWI) organization dedicated to preventing alcohol and other drug abuse among middle and high school students in unincorporated White Center and the North Highline areas of King County, specifically, Cascade Middle School and the three schools that comprise the Evergreen Campus.

Through a series of programs and projects implemented in collaboration with Coalition partners on campus and the community, we seek to provide youth with positive alternatives to alcohol, tobacco and drug use.

These include parent nights and open houses at middle and high schools, health fairs on campus and in the community, support and sponsorship of Prevention Teams and activities on campus, community-wide media campaigns, and community meetings and surveys.

School programs at Cascade Middle School and Evergreen Campus are facilitated by a Student Assistance Professional employed by Puget Sound Educational Service District (PSED).



**Coalition for  
Drug-Free Youth**  
**White Center/North Highline**  
**“Educating, Inspiring, Empowering”**

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