

OHIO PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUCCESS GRANT PROGRAM

Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services

PROBLEM OF PRACTICE (PoP) REPORT

Data Mini-Grantee

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Prepared by:

Ironton on the Move

February 2018



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County Profile

Lawrence County is the southern-most county in Ohio, separated from Kentucky and West Virginia by the Ohio River. This Appalachian county has an estimated population of 60,872.

The population is predominantly Caucasian (95.6%), with a small (2.2%) African American population. Only 1.6% of the county identifies as multiracial. A small percentage (0.9%) of the county reports being of Hispanic or Latino origin.

English is the predominant language, with only 1.6% of residents reporting that another language is spoken at home.

Among residents above 25 years of age, 85.7% have a high school diploma and 14.1% have a Bachelor's degree or higher. Though the high school graduation rate is similar to that found across the state of Ohio (89.5%), the percentage of county residents with an advanced degree is much lower than the state (26.7%).

The five-year median household income (2012-2016) is \$44,256, which is considerably lower than the state median of \$50,674. The five-year estimates for the percentage of the county residents below the Federal Poverty Level is 17.9%, which is above the state estimate of 14.6%.

The county includes six public school districts (Chesapeake-Union Exempted Village School District, Collins Career Center, Dawson-Bryant Local School District, Ironton City School District, Rock Hill Local School District, Saint Joseph Private Schools, South Point Local School District, and Symmes Valley Local School District).

Prevention Data Committee (PDC)

Our PDC has met three times. We plan to meet on a Monthly basis. Our PDC consists of the following members:

Member Name	Organization
Daniel Remley	Ohio State University Extension
Diva Justice	Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital, Healthy Communities Initiative
MarkCompston	Wealth Management
Debbie Fisher	Lawrence County Health Department
Eden Silva	Impact Youth-Led Prevention Team Member
Mollie Stevens	Impact Prevention, Inc

Priority Problem

Ohio’s SPF-PFS project focuses on 1) underage drinking among individuals ages 12-20 years and 2) prescription drug abuse among individuals ages 12-25 years.

We have decided to select *Underage Drinking* as our Priority Problem.

Priority Population

The priority population will be all students between the ages of 14-18 (grades 8th-12th) in Dawson-Bryant, Ironton and Rock Hill Districts, Ironton, Ohio. Ironton is a small rural Appalachian community, predominately Caucasian with little ethnic diversity.

Data Sources Used When Selecting Priority Problem

- OHYES! 2017 Lawrence County
- OHYES! 2016 Lawrence County
- OHYES! 2017 Adams County
- Ohio 2013 YRBSS
- 2013/2014 Ohio National Survey on Drugs and Health (NSDUH)

Lawrence County Problem Statement

Per the 2017 OHYES! Assessment Data, underage drinking in the past 30 days, 7th through 12th grades is 16.8% with a huge jump of 12.5% of 9th graders to 36.6% in 12th grade, that is a 24.1% increase.

Why Underage Drinking is an Issue among Priority Population in Lawrence County

Use of alcohol by youth under the age of 18 is problematic with a considerable jump from 9th graders to 12th graders. Our residents are proud of our rural, small, close-knit community, but this has also been identified as a crutch pertaining to the acceptance of underage drinking; the attitude of our youth is that drinking is not harmful, peers and parents do not disapprove of underage drinking and parents do not talk with their children about alcohol. Activities for the youth that do not involve alcohol are lacking.

Outcome Variables

Outcome Variable	Baseline Data	Data Source	Year
Alcohol 30 day use	12.50% of 9th graders	OHYES! Assessment Data	2017
Alcohol 30 day use	36.60% of 12 th graders	OHYES! Assessment Data	2017