

Montcalm Prevention Collaborative

January 2020



Montcalm Prevention
COLLABORATIVE

Montcalm Youth Wellness Committee

Our Voice. Our Vision. Our Victory.

WHO WE ARE

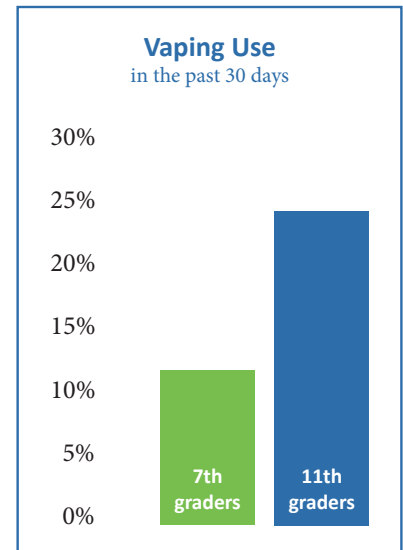
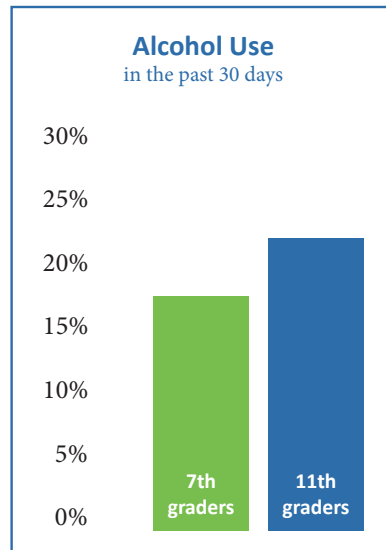
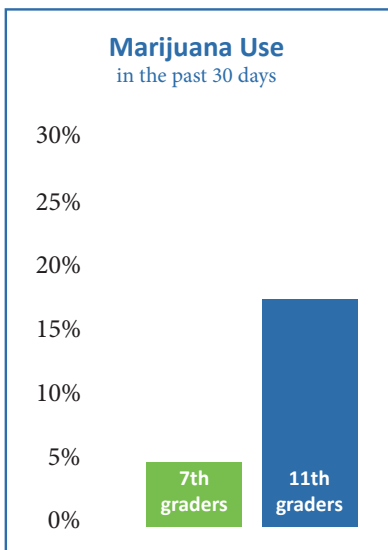
The Montcalm Youth Wellness Committee (MYWC) was formed in 2017 to empower young people to make good choices for their health and well-being, and to develop leadership skills to facilitate positive, social change in their communities.

WHAT WE DO

There have been many trends in substance use over the years, and coalitions across the nation have worked to address them all. Excited about the possibilities of what we can achieve through continued growth, the MYWC will study the changing landscape of drug and alcohol use in our county and adopt best practices to help tackle drugs on the rise.

THE CHALLENGES WE FACE

Technology and changes in the law make it easier than ever for youth to obtain and use drugs and alcohol. In Montcalm County, youth are joining others from around the world as part of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) to create healthier, more fulfilling lives.



Data Source: MiPHY 2017-2018 Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth

OUR PARTNERS

Carson City Police Department
Cherry Health Promotion
Great Start Collaborative
Greenville Area Community Foundation

Greenville Department of Public Safety
Lakeview Police Department
Mid-Michigan District Health Department
Montcalm Care Network

Montcalm County Sheriff Department
Spectrum Health-United Hospital

ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Coordinated Response: Youth leadership teams are youth-led, and guided by adult public health educators and business leaders who educate them about what works in promoting healthy lifestyles. Youth provide vaping information at school block parties, parent-teacher conferences, community health fairs and other community events.

Prevention Curriculum: Partner with Montcalm County school districts to deliver Project SUCCESS, an evidence-based substance use prevention curriculum. Over 200 students received this instruction in the fall of 2019.

Community Initiatives: Youth led a “sticker shock” campaign and work with the Montcalm County Sheriff’s Department to ensure retail compliance with laws regulating the sale of tobacco and alcohol to minors and conduct compliance check in the County.

School Leadership: Each year, Montcalm youth attend CADCA National Leadership training and bring back what they learned to their schools and communities. In their respective districts, youth leaders have run kindness campaigns, organized assemblies, created senior (legacy) bricks, changed school policy around suspension for vaping and created a vaping education WebQuest, and more.



“I just love it at the CADCA Leadership Conference because there are people like me here; they think like me.”

- Greenville High School sophomore Domenic Cedillo



SECRETS TO OUR SUCCESS

Diverse Membership: We engage students from grades 9 to 12 across all school districts to ensure broad representation and access to essential insights.

Best practices: We use proven strategies for improving health and well-being, guided by the science of prevention and social change,

Action Orientation: We steadily move from thoughtful conversation to implementation of action plans.

Continual Improvement: We measure the impact of our efforts through study of County, State and National data.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As our funding comes to an end September 30, 2020, our progress and positive results in the community also run the risk of disappearing. We need to engage new supporters to ensure the continuation of our effective prevention curriculum and youth leadership initiatives. Help us keep the momentum going by becoming involved in one of the following ways:

✓ **Become a supporting member:** Donate money or supplies, and/or attend our events. You are welcome to attend our meetings to stay up-to-date on what’s happening with the Collaborative.

✓ **Become a voting member:** Join the Collaborative and help us move forward by serving on one of our committees and/or providing in-kind services.

✓ **Become a collaborator:** Spread the word about our work and how people can connect with us.

For more information, contact Jodie Faber, Prevention Coordinator at coordinator@montcalmprevention.org or visit montcalmprevention.org.