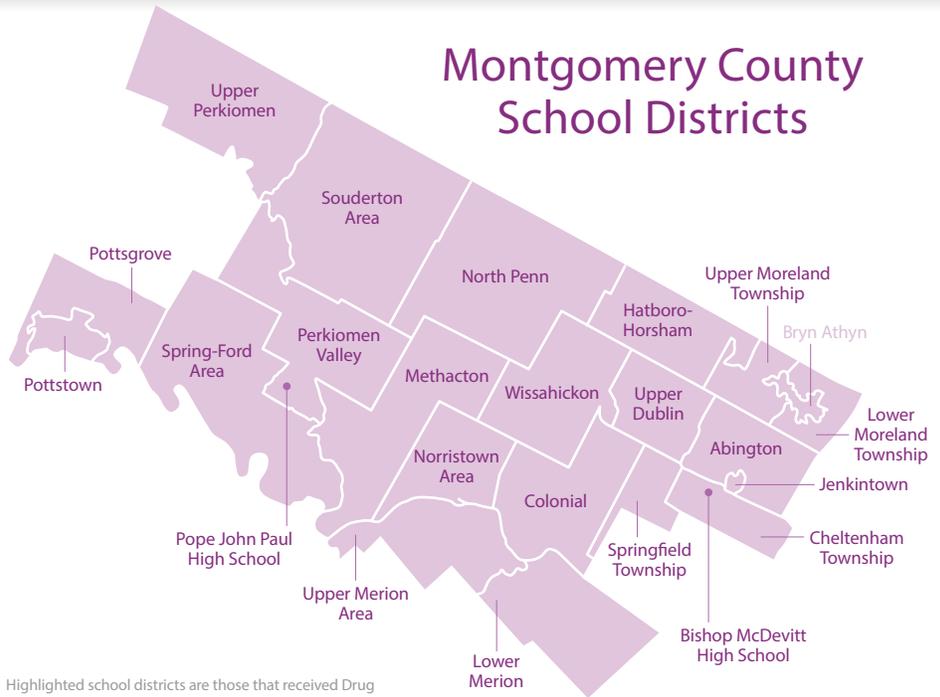




PREVENTION PROGRAMMING AND EVALUATION FINDINGS 2020–2021

9 programs implemented

- Be Part of the Conversation
- CATCH My Breath
- Guiding Good Choices
- Second Step
- Signs of Suicide
- Strengthening Families
- Student Assistance Program
- Too Good for Drugs
- Vaping Prevention Plus Wellness



Highlighted school districts are those that received Drug & Alcohol programming in the 2020–2021 school year.

29,152 surveys completed

7,810 students reached

929 parents reached



The data reflected in this report highlights important information about the scope of data collection and key findings for a selection of the County’s evidence-based programs provided in schools during the 2020-2021 school year.

WestEd has been funded by the Office of Drug and Alcohol in Montgomery County to assist in evaluation planning, program evaluation implementation, and comprehensive reporting of alcohol and drug programming in the county. WestEd is a nonpartisan, nonprofit research, development, and service agency working to improve education and other important outcomes for children, youth, and adults.

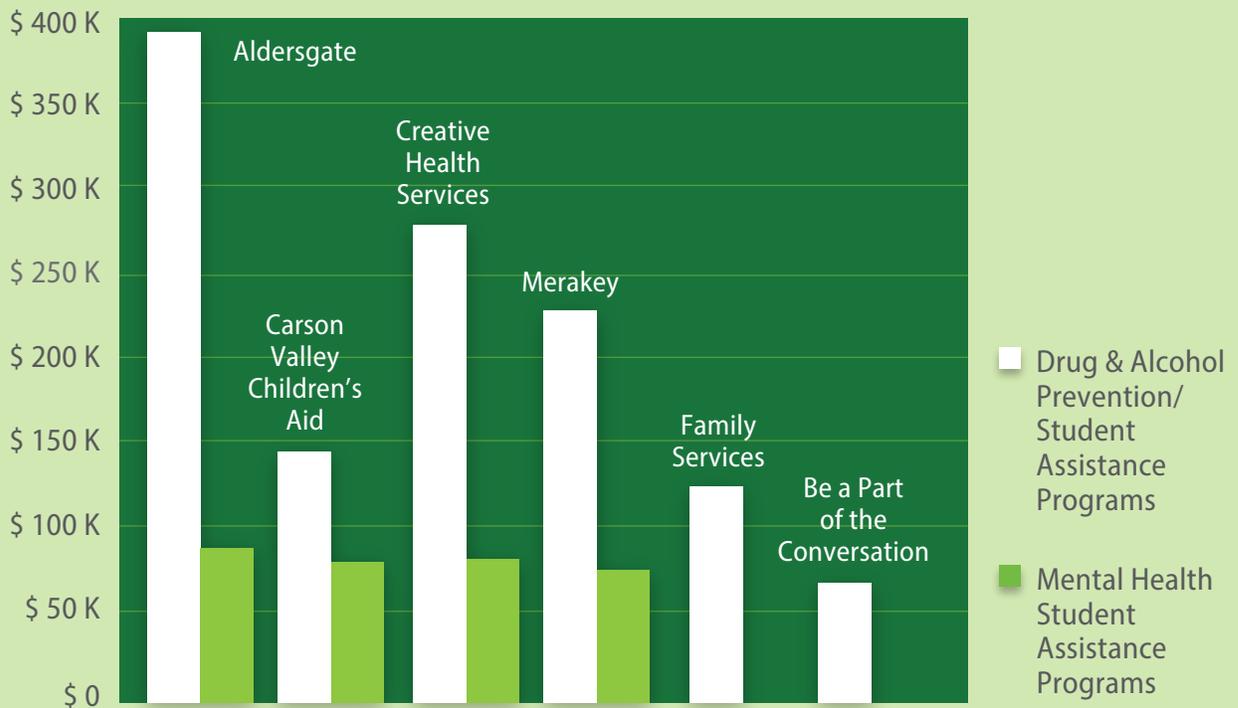
WestEd has designed data collection procedures, trained providers on data collection, and conducted analyses of the evaluation data collected from students participating in evidence-based programs provided in Montgomery County schools as well as other prevention programming offered throughout the county.

FUNDING

OVERALL FUNDING



FUNDING BY AGENCY & SERVICES



MINI-GRANTS GIVEN TO 3 MINI-GRANTEES TOTALING \$4,407

1 police department

1 community organization

1 coalition

PROGRAM FINDINGS

TOO GOOD FOR DRUGS

INCREASED KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE IMPACT OF DRUG & ALCOHOL USE ON THE BODY



79% high school students knew

✓
Marijuana could cause you to forget things.

↑ an increase of 34 percentage points

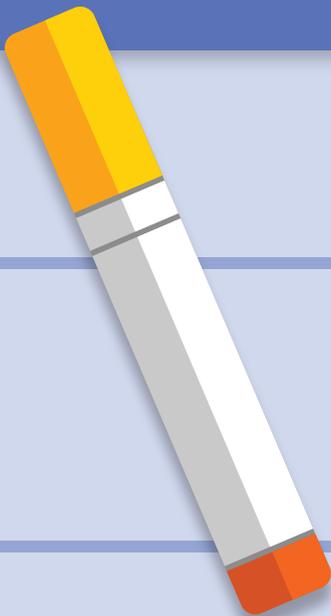
INCREASED KNOWLEDGE OF RISKS & HARM

81% 6th/7th graders knew

✓
THC can be stored in the body for a month.

↑ an increase of 15 percentage points

CATCH MY BREATH



76% disagreed that

✗
E-cigarette vapor contains mostly water.

↑ an increase of 39 percentage points

64% knew that

✓
Water was not a main part of E-liquid (or E-juice).

↑ an increase of 34 percentage points

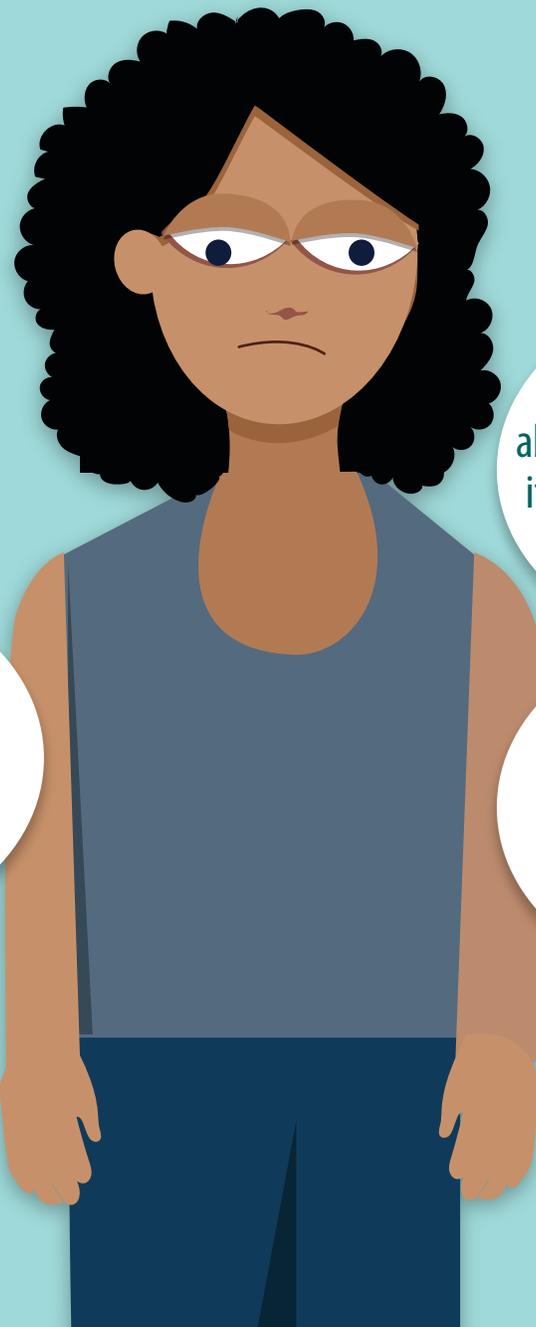
74% agreed that

✓
Direct pressure is advertising paid for by the tobacco industry.

↑ an increase of 35 percentage points

SIGNS OF SUICIDE

IMPROVEMENT IN MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS



75%
agreed

an increase of 19
percentage points



Depression
is an illness that
doctors can treat.

82%
disagreed

an increase of 19
percentage points



"If I talk to someone
about their suicidal feelings,
it may give them the idea
to kill themselves."



Most suicide attempts
occur without any
warning signs or clues.

86%
disagreed

an increase of 18
percentage points

SECOND STEP FINDINGS

Nearly every student correctly identified strategies for **CALMING DOWN** AND **BELLY BREATHING**

DESSA

The Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA) is a strengths-based measure of social-emotional behaviors related to resilience, social-emotional competence, and school success for children in Kindergarten through 8th grade.

After participating in the Second Step program:

6%

of students scored in the **NEED** range



a decrease of 11 percentage points

Children with scores in the **NEED** range can be considered at risk for exhibiting or developing social-emotional problems.

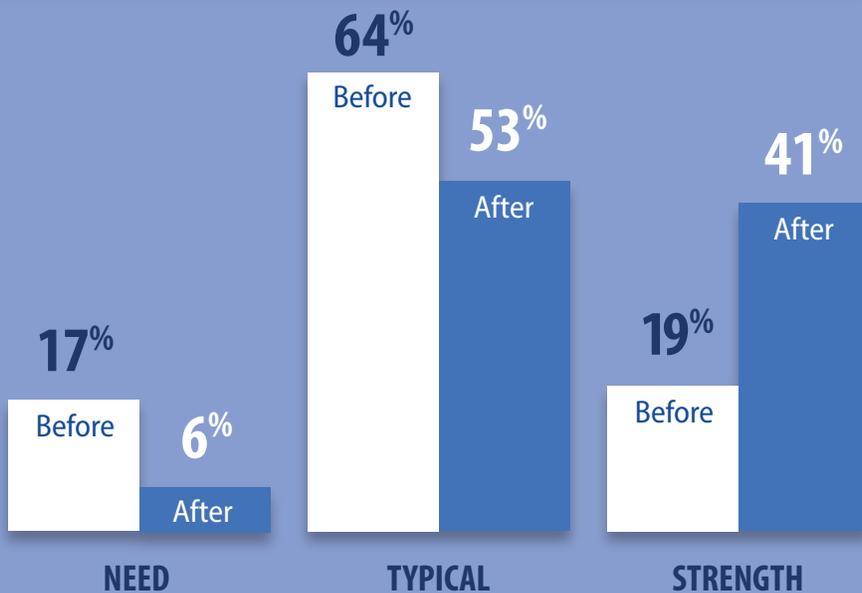
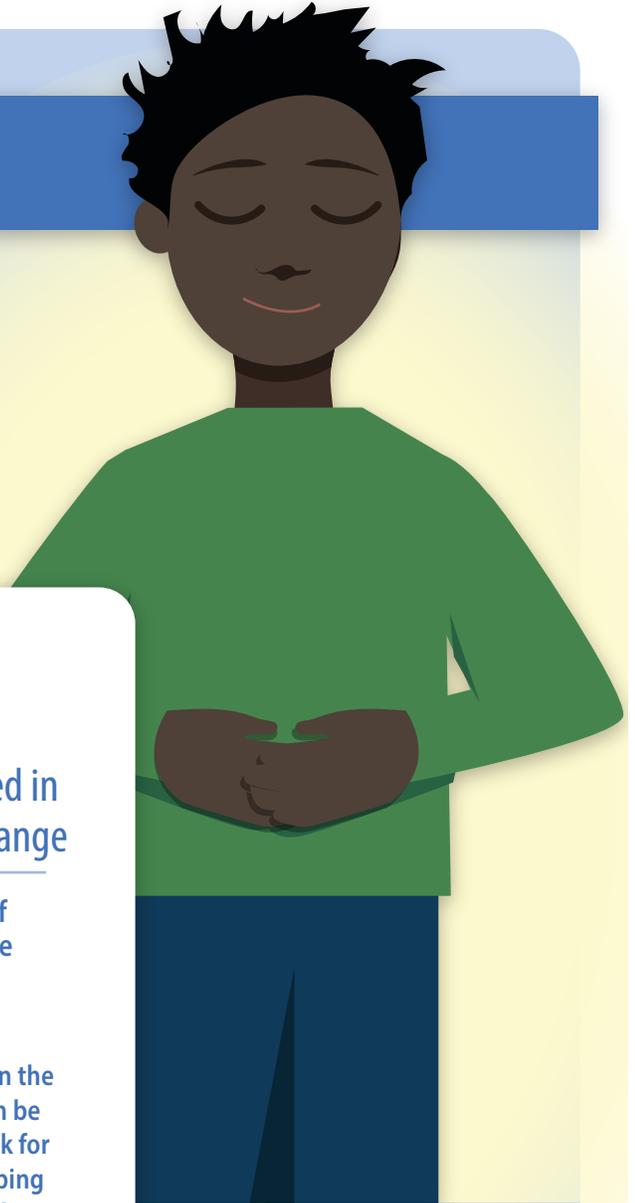
41%

of students scored in the **STRENGTH** range



an increase of 22 percentage points

Children with scores in the **STRENGTH** range can be considered **NOT** at risk for exhibiting or developing social-emotional problems.



Naglieri, J.A., LeBuffe, P. A., and Shapiro, V. B. (2014). DESSA-Mini: Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA) K-8th Grade: A Universal screening and Progress Monitoring System for Social-Emotional Competencies. Charlotte, NC: Devereux Foundation.

OTHER PROGRAMS

BE A PART OF THE CONVERSATION PARENT FORUMS

7 VIRTUAL PARENT PROGRAMS REACHING 401 PARENTS

2
alcohol
prevention

2
cannabis
prevention

1
stimulant
misuse

1
parenting
support

1
parenting
and recovery

89.6%
of participants **felt they
were aware of resources**
after attending the program

82%
of participants found
the presentations
very helpful

87.9%
of participants
would attend another
Be a Part of the
Conversation program

86.7%
of participants **would
recommend a Be Part
of the Conversation
program to a friend**

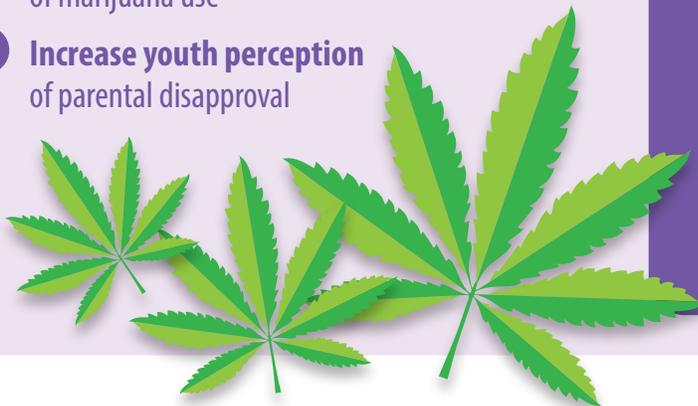


YOUTH MARIJUANA PREVENTION PROJECT (YMPP)

A FIVE-YEAR INITIATIVE FUNDED BY THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF DRUG & ALCOHOL

Our goals tie directly to the Identified Risk Factors from Montgomery County's Needs Assessment process:

- 1 **Reduce youth marijuana use** in Montgomery County
- 2 **Increase youth perceived risk** of marijuana use
- 3 **Increase youth perception** of parental disapproval



Taking
the lead
225
participants

Marijuana and the
Developing Brain
105
participants

Need to Know Health
Teacher Training
41
participants

1 media
campaign
342,000
reached

PARENT EVIDENCE-BASED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

PARENT EDUCATION

8

non-evidenced based programs

115

parents reached

2 EVIDENCED-BASED PROGRAMS

6

strengthening Families Program cohorts

8

Guiding Good Choices program cohorts

60 53
parents children

130 145
parents children



PARENT PROGRAM RESULTS:

Guiding Good Choices

73%

of participants said they held a family meeting to plan family fun and strengthen family bonding.

How well did you feel the meeting went?

Rating:

5.66
(out of 7)

Stengthening Families 10-14

2.6%

Before

3.1%

After

SCALE OF 1-4

YOUTH RESULT:
my parent(s)/caregiver(s) talk to me about their values and believes.

2.9%

Before

3.5%

After

SCALE OF 1-4

PARENT RESULT:
I discuss our family's values with my youth

COMMUNITY PREVENTION

SOCIAL HOST INITIATIVE

8

law enforcement meetings

750

takeout bags distributed

2

parent presentations

64

parents attended

Social Host Media Campaign
816,134 reached



COALITION SUPPORT

Technical Assistance provided to 5 community coalitions:

4 quarterly meetings

2 learning communities

5 session social media training



STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SAP)

Drug & Alcohol SAP Group

319 reaching **327**
hours students

Mental Health SAP Group

324 reaching **597**
hours students

Mental Health Individual Support (MH3)

1,460 reaching **795**
hours students

SAP SCREENINGS

522
SAP Screenings

83%
would recommend to a friend

On average, most participants in SAP programming felt they learned skills to help make better choices.

PA SAP trains school staff to identify alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and mental health issues that act as barriers to student's success. The primary goal of SAP is to help students overcome barriers, remain in school, and advance academically.

Once students are referred to SAP, they complete a screening to assess domains such as drug and alcohol use, suicidal ideation, trauma, and other mental health issues. Community or school based referrals are generated from the screening results. SAP Liaisons meet in-person with students, parents, and school staff; they also attend SAP Team meetings.

For more information email:
SAP@montcopa.org



On average, participants reported being very satisfied with SAP services