

AT A GLANCE

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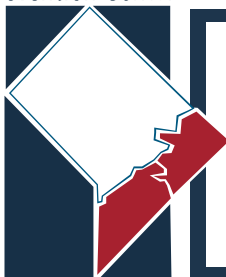
Community Forums
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Making a Change
Youth Leadership
Looking Toward the
Future

Prevention Center

District of Columbia



Wards 7&8



DC DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

STRONG COMMUNITIES...

IT'S ABOUT YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CARING ADULTS

3939 BENNING ROAD, NE WASHINGTON, DC 20019 (202) 388-3001

2017 Highlights

An Introduction: The Wards 7 & 8 DC Prevention Center



The Wards 7 & 8 DC Prevention Center (DCPC) is a collaborative venture with the DC Department of Behavioral Health, Substance Use Disorders (DBH SUD) division and Bridging Resources In Communities, Inc. (BRIC), the lead community based agency for this initiative, designed to reduce youth access to and use of drugs. There are four DC Prevention Centers, each covering two DC Wards.

Launched in June 2010, the Wards 7 & 8 DCPC utilizes a public health, social development model based upon the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Strategic Prevention Framework. The Wards 7 & 8 DCPC employs this framework to engage in population/community level drug use prevention that incorporates three core functions to address priority risk factors and target outcomes.

THE THREE CORE FUNCTIONS ARE:

Community Education
Community Leadership
Community Change

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2017, our prevention center collaborated on many community-wide events. We always kick off the year with the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Peace Walk and Parade and end off with talks of "Staying Sober During the Holidays." Our team prides itself with going out into the community and finding those gems, those key leaders and communities who need a change and want to be active agents against all odds. Some highlights include Summer Kick-offs, "Beat the Streets," Back to School events, basketball tournaments, and occasional "Chat and Chews."

Read further for more information...



WWW.bricinc.org/ward-78-prevention-center

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COMMUNITY EDUCATION



Spreading the Word

Community Conversations

The DCPC assisted the African American Music Association (AAMA) with their annual event In Memory & Tribute to Marvin Gaye as well as multiple Community Conversations on Alcohol and Drug Prevention at various times in 2017.

Beat the Streets, Health Fairs, and National Night Out

The DCPC distributed material in Congress Park, Bald Eagle Recreation Center, Bellevue Library, and Kenilworth Park at MPD 6D and 7D's annual events. Other events we have supported include Fatherhood Conference and Men's Health Fair, Alliance for Concerned Men Community Forums, and Safe Summer Community Day.

33% Residents ages 12-17 do not perceive great risk using marijuana - RTI/ DC Prevention Survey, 2016



COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Supporting our Partners

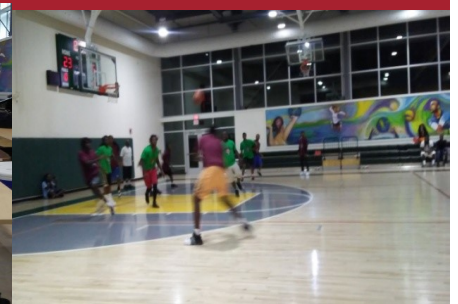
The DCPC has presented information on substance use risks to youth in Lincoln Heights, Richardson Dwellings, Woodland Terrace, Arbor view, United Planning Organization P.O.W.E.R., The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington, and the newly formed Prevention Council.

Back-to-School events

Partners call on us to support their events at Barry Farms, East River Family Strengthening Collaborative, Exodus Treatment Center, and Benning Stoddard Recreation Center.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



On January 16, 2017, the staff participated with CPNs to commence the 11th Annual MLK Peace Walk & Parade

We followed this up with A Youth Survey & Film Screening - Chasing the Dragon: The Life of a Heroin Addict later in the month on January 26, 2017.

During the Summer, we had many activities including the Kenilworth Basketball Tournament with our partners from the Ward 7 Health Alliance and the Kenilworth Community.

Anacostia Historical Museum 50th Anniversary Community Block Party occurred in October 2017.

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Making a Difference

Grand Opening

On June 6, 2017, the staff also supported the Check It Building Grand Opening in Ward 8 with key leaders Phil Pannell and Ron Moten.

Purple Wave

Second Purple Wave Festival - Creating Pathways to Wellness & Recovery hosted by DC RAC and supported by DBH at the First Tabernacle Beth-El Church at various times throughout the year.

Chat and Chews

Over 100 residents participated in several Chat & Chew sessions held over the summer at the Lincoln Heights Community Center and in various churches in Deanwood to discuss marijuana use in the community with material from the Blunt Truth campaign.



YOUTH SPOTLIGHT



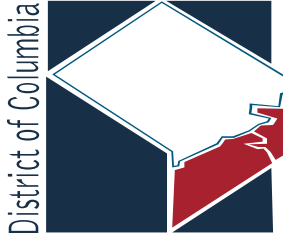
In November 2017, The Youth Prevention Leadership Corp (YPLC) participated in “Youth Issues and Solutions for Improving Health in the District of Columbia,” Ward 7 Councilmember & DC Health Committee Chair Vincent Gray’s Youth public oversight hearing focusing on health issues. YPLC members testified about how drug use prevention and being a part of the YPLC benefits them. Chairman Gray was impressed with their comments and asked them a few questions. They were the only group of youth he specifically asked to come back to participate in a future hearing.

The YPLC is actively working on a Social Media platform and Poster for distribution.

You can find more information on the YPLC at our website or on their Instagram page: @Wards7_8youthleaders .

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Winter Evaluation/NADFW**
The prevention center is coming out of the winter with new ideas and strategies. Also, NIDA’s National Drug Facts Week had a great turn out at the beginning of 2018 with even more schools and students’ participation.
- **Mental Health Awareness Month**
Reduce the stigma and become more aware about mental health issues. The month of May will be the chance to learn more about the biological and social factors affecting our health.
- **Summer Hustle**
Beat the Streets, Safe Summer and Back to School events are coming soon. The prevention center is gearing up to assist those organizations and communities in the fight against substance abuse.



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To all of our Partners...

Thank You!

