

PCOA is developing the prevention program strategies and coalition using the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) planning model. Here is an overview of that process.

SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) is a planning process for preventing substance use and misuse. The five steps of the SPF guide prevention professionals in planning, implementing, and evaluating effective evidence-based prevention efforts that reflect cultural competence and show sustainability. The effectiveness of this process begins with a clear understanding of community needs and involves community members in all stages of the planning process. The SPF reflects a community-based approach to prevention efforts that will support our community in building the infrastructure necessary for successful outcomes.

Each step contains specific tasks and key milestones. The steps of the SPF include:



[Step 1: Assess Needs](#)

Stakeholders and members of the coalition (older adults, local experts, older adult service providers, and prevention specialists), gather and assess data from a variety of sources to develop a common knowledge of substance misuse and existing prevention efforts.

[Step 2: Build Capacity](#)

Step 2 focuses on identifying resources and readiness for addressing substance misuse. What is Pima County's capacity—that is, the resources and readiness—to support prevention services for older adults? Programs that are well supported are more likely to succeed. Community resources and community readiness often go hand-in-hand: building resource capacity also contributes to greater readiness. For example, when key stakeholders are involved in solving problems, they are more likely to engage others. This leads to more people recognizing the value of prevention and greater community readiness to accept prevention interventions. Cultural competence and the sustainability of prevention outcomes are closely linked aspects of capacity building. Broad cultural representation is essential to sustaining long-term prevention efforts: the wider your base of support, the greater the likelihood you will achieve a successful outcome.

[Step 3: Plan](#)

Step 3 shows how to plan effectively by prioritizing risk and protective factors and building logic models. Planning increases the effectiveness of prevention efforts by ensuring that prevention professionals and their stakeholders work toward the same goals. We value all stakeholders invested in support for older adults, whether they are part of our formal coalition or informal individuals or groups of collaborators. Planning is also crucial to the sustainability of prevention outcomes. It establishes the resources needed to maintain program activities and greatly increases the likelihood that you will achieve your expected outcomes.

[Step 4: Implement](#)

In Step 4 prevention planners develop action plans to implement their chosen prevention intervention. During this step, you will see if your assessments were accurate and find out how your target population

responds to the program. As you implement your selected interventions, develop a strong action plan and adapt it as needed; stay aware of factors that may influence how your intervention is implemented.

Step 5: Evaluate

The evaluation step quantifies the challenges and successes of implementing a prevention program. Evaluation is the systematic collection and analysis of information about program activities, characteristics, and outcomes.

For more information:

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities.

SAMHSA model for

<http://www.samhsa.gov/>

<http://www.samhsa.gov/prevention>

<http://www.samhsa.gov/capt/applying-strategic-prevention-framework>

About CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America)

CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America) is the national membership organization representing over 5,000 coalitions and affiliates working to make America's communities safe, healthy and drug-free. CADCA's mission is to strengthen the capacity of community coalitions by providing technical assistance and training, public policy advocacy, media strategies and marketing programs, conferences, and special events. Learn more at <http://www.cadca.org/>

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