



Organization: Deerfield Valley Community Prevention Partnership; Wilmington, VT
Contact: Cindy Hayford

Q: What did you change a law, a regulation, an ordinance, a policy or other?

A: The Deerfield Valley Community Partnership changed the drug and alcohol policy for athletes at the local high school to contain a rehabilitation component.

Q: Where did the idea to make the change originate?

A: The idea for the change came from coalition members that were concerned with the amount of drug and alcohol use among the students.

Q: What elected or other government officials did you meet with to accomplish this change? And at what point(s) in the process did you meet with them?

A: We met with administrators of the local schools.

Q: What materials did you use to make your case that the change was necessary and would produce the desired results?

A: We used policies from other schools and data from the youth risk behavior survey.

Q: Through what system/process did you make your change?

A: A committee was formed that included school personnel, students, the athletic director, the coalition director, the local police chief, the state prevention consultant and coaches. The policy was presented to the principal and then to the school board for approval.

Q: Who were your allies in making this change?

A: Our allies were the police department, school personnel and Partnership members.

Q: Who opposed this change?

A: This change was opposed by some of the school administration, some athletes, and some school board members

Q: Did you testify in front of local boards or state governing bodies?

A: We presented to the principal, who approved the policy and presented it to the school board.

Q: Please describe in detail the outcome of your change.

A: The policy is now in place and holds athletes responsible for their behavior. A rehabilitative component is in place as well.