



# POMEROY PARTNERS *for Healthy Families*

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*As a coalition, we strive to empower youth and families, promote mental well-being,  
and reduce substance use in collaboration with our community partners*

Opioid Abatement Council Proposal  
Garfield County, Washington  
October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Pomeroy Partners for Healthy Families in Garfield County, Washington is proposing to use the majority portion of the opioid settlement funds to provide match funding for a Student Assistance Specialist at Pomeroy Jr. Sr. High School. The SAP is currently funded at 80% through the Washington State Healthcare Authority's Community Prevention & Wellness Initiative (CPWI) and requires a 20% match. The SAP would provide support in the junior high/ high school for students who are struggling with addiction, mental health issues, and other challenges that impact their academic success and well-being. The SAP also focuses on students who are at risk of substance use, prevention of substance use, and brief interventions when substance use occurs.

The student assistance specialist would work closely with school counselors, teachers, and administrators to identify at-risk students and provide targeted interventions and support. This may include individual sessions, group sessions, referrals to community resources, and other evidence-based interventions.

Funding the 20% match for the student assistance specialist would provide critical support for students who are struggling with addiction and other challenges that impact their academic success and well-being. By providing early intervention, prevention, and support, we can help prevent addiction and other negative outcomes, and promote healthy habits and behaviors.

We are also proposing to use up to \$2,500 per year to support our adult and youth coalitions in our efforts to prevent substance abuse among youth and adults across our entire community.

One of the key strategies of our coalition is to provide educational and recreational activities for youth and adults that promote healthy and substance-free lifestyles. We believe that by setting aside a small portion of funds for support, we can increase attendance and engagement among our target population.

Coalition Support	Up to \$2,500 per year
Match funding – Student Assistance Professional	All remaining dollars

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sarah Meyers, BA, CPP  
Coalition Director  
Pomeroy Partners for Healthy Families  
Quality Behavioral Health – Pomeroy

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## Part 2 Prevention: G: Prevent Misuse of Opioids

- 4. Fund community anti-drug coalitions that engage in drug prevention efforts.
- 5. Support community coalitions in implementing evidence-informed prevention, such as reduced social access and physical access, stigma reduction – including staffing, educational campaigns, support for people in treatment or recovery, or training of coalitions in evidence-informed implementation, including the Strategic Prevention Framework developed by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).
- 6. Engage non-profits and faith-based communities as systems to support prevention.
- 7. Support evidence-informed school and community education programs and campaigns for students. Families, school employees, school athletic programs, parent-teacher and student associations, and others.
- 8. School-based or youth-focused programs or strategies that have demonstrated effectiveness in preventing drug misuse and seem likely to be effective in preventing the uptake and use of opioids.
- 9. Support community-based education or intervention services for families, youth, and adolescents at risk for OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions, co-usage, and/or co-addiction.
- 10. Support evidence-informed programs or curricula to address mental health needs of young people who may be at risk of misusing opioids or other drugs, including emotional modulation and resilience skills.
- 11. Support greater access to mental health services and supports for young people, including services and supports provided by school nurses or other school staff, to address mental health needs in young people that (when not properly addressed) increase the risk of opioid or other drug misuse.

### H. PREVENT OVERDOSE DEATHS AND OTHER HARMS

Support efforts to prevent or reduce overdose deaths or other opioid-related harms through evidence-based, evidence-informed, or promising programs or strategies that may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Increase availability and distribution of naloxone and other drugs that treat overdoses for first responders, overdose patients, opioid users, families and friends of opioid users, schools, community navigators and outreach workers, drug offenders upon release from jail/prison, or other members of the general public.
- 2. Provision by public health entities of free naloxone to anyone in the community, including but not limited to provision of intra-nasal naloxone in settings where other options are not available or allowed.
- 3. Training and education regarding naloxone and other drugs that treat overdoses for first responders, overdose patients, patients taking opioids, families, schools, and other members of the general public.
- 4. Enable school nurses and other school staff to respond to opioid overdoses, and provide them with naloxone, training, and support.
- 5. Expand, improve, or develop data tracking software and applications for overdoses/naloxone revivals.