

# Lobby Poll

What youth substance misuse prevention policies exist in your community?





# Understanding the Role of Policy in Preventing Substance Misuse: Part 1

## Identifying and Implementing Policy Best Practice for Alcohol and Prescription Drugs

Tracy Desovich, MPH, CPS, Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA) Specialist  
Education Development Center (EDC)

Ivy Jones-Turner, MPA, T/TA Specialist, EDC

Noreen Burke, MPP, TA Provider, EDC

# Technical Information

This webinar is being recorded and archived. Following the webinar, the archived recording will be available to all webinar participants.

Please contact the webinar facilitator if you have any concerns or questions.

For training use only.



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

PTTC

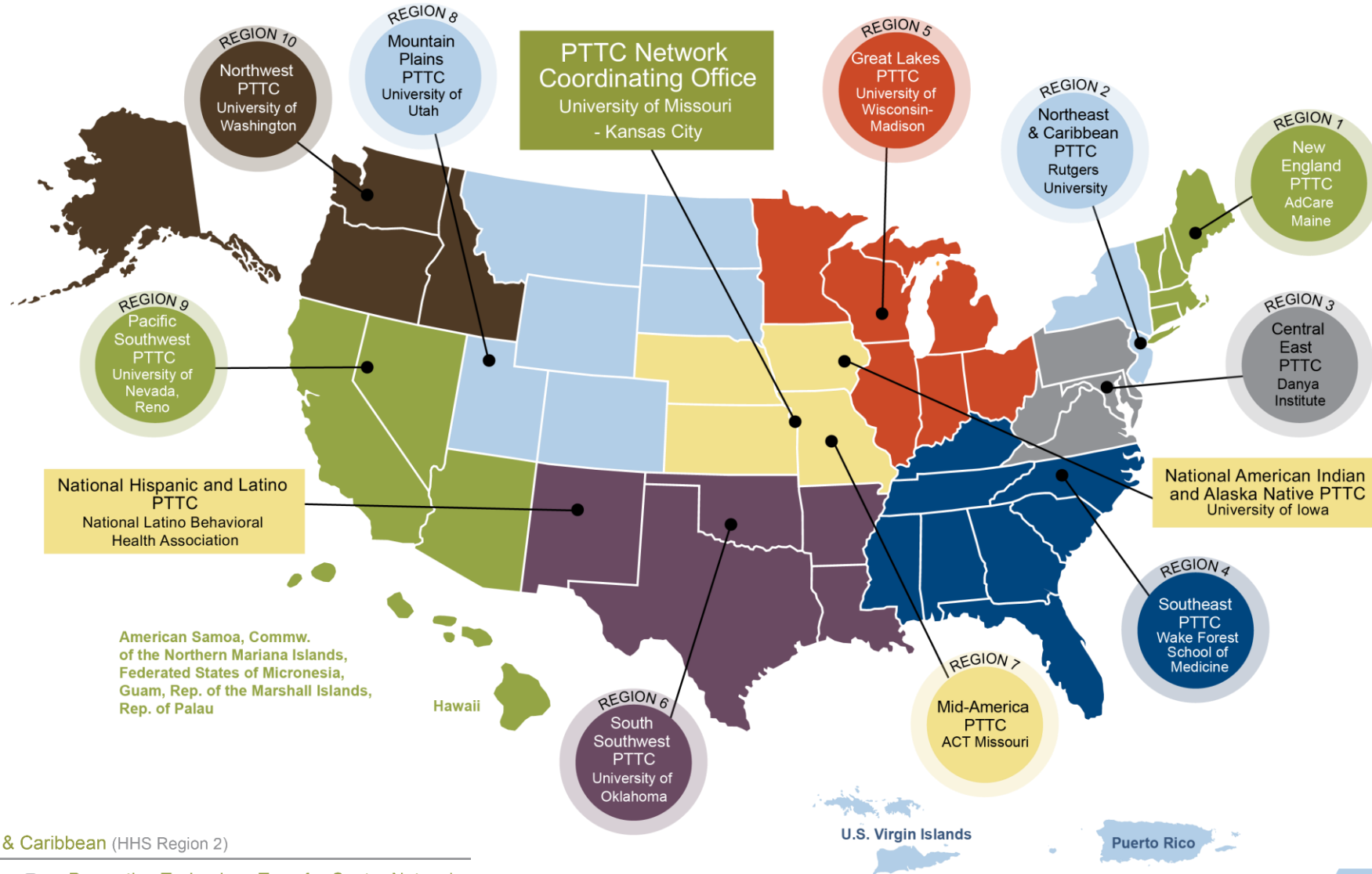
Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



**PTTC**

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

**PTTC Network**



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC**

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Facilitator



**Noreen Burke, MPP**  
TA Provider, EDC



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC** Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Presenters



**Tracy Desovich, MPH, CPS**  
T/TA Specialist, EDC



**Ivy Jones-Turner, MPA**  
T/TA Specialist, EDC

# Learning Objectives

- Describe policy as critical component of a comprehensive substance use/misuse prevention plan.
- Describe community conditions that support successful policy change efforts.
- Identify evidence-based policies to prevent youth substance use/misuse.
- Articulate solutions to common challenges associated with policy change efforts.

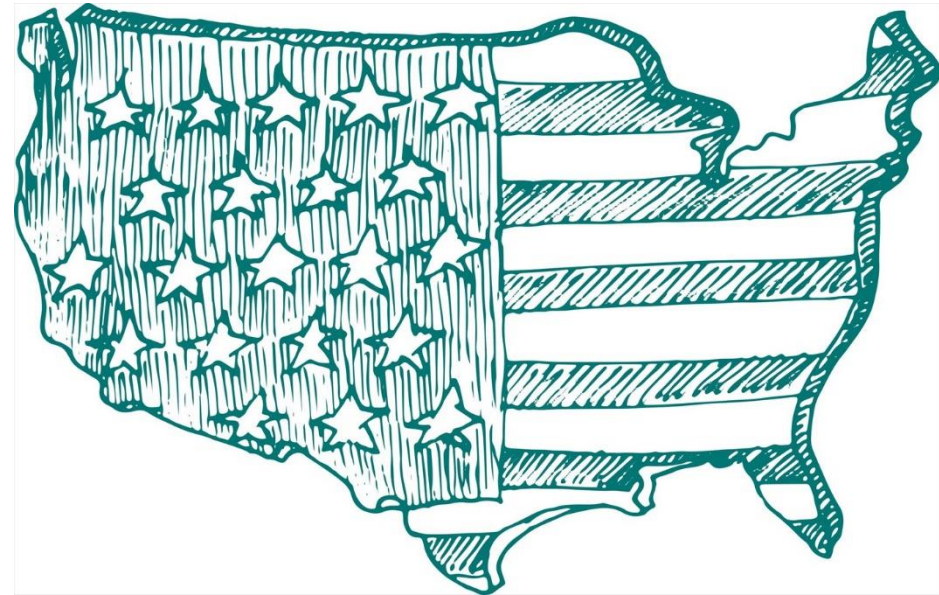


# Setting the Stage for Policy Change



# Poll

What does youth substance use look like in the U.S.?



# Our Collective Responsibility

*...is to keep youth safe and healthy so they can thrive!*



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC**

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# What Is Policy?

“Standards for behavior that are formalized . . . and embodied in rules, regulations, and procedures.”



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

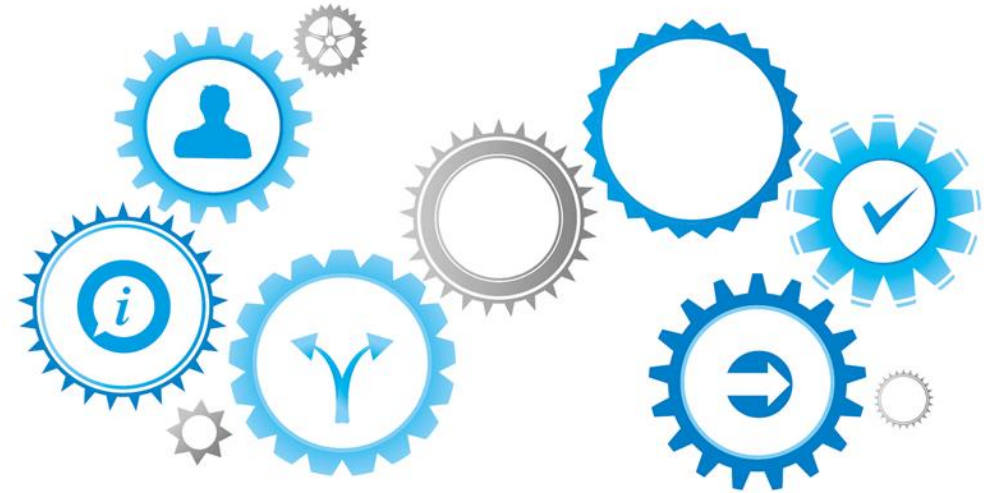
PTTC

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Policy Change as an Environmental Strategy

Aims to change or influence:

- Community standards
- Institutions
- Structures
- Attitudes that shape individual behavior



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

PTTC

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Policy Advantages<sup>4</sup>

- Broad and efficient reach
- Establishes conditions favorable to non-use
- Lasting, long-term impacts
- Cost effective
- Sustainable



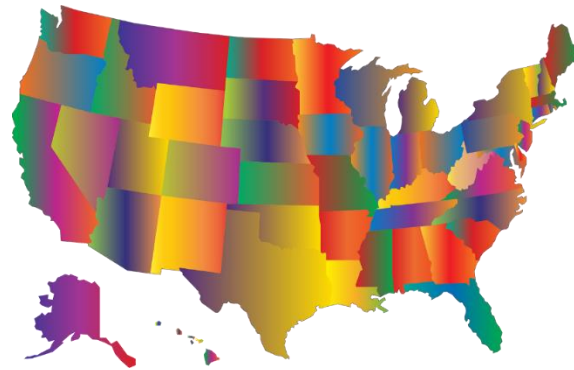
Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC** Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

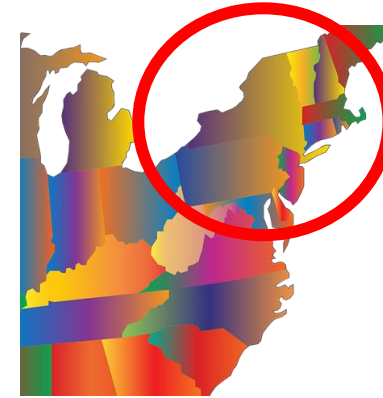
# Where Do Policies Live?



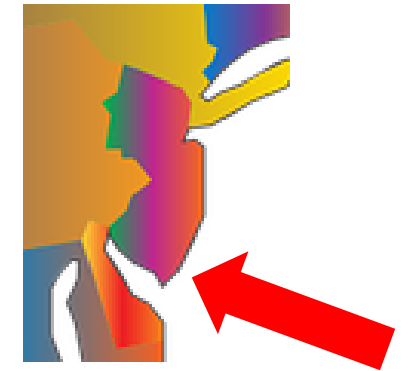
**Global**



**National**



**State/  
Jurisdiction**



**Local**



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC**

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administrator

# Poll

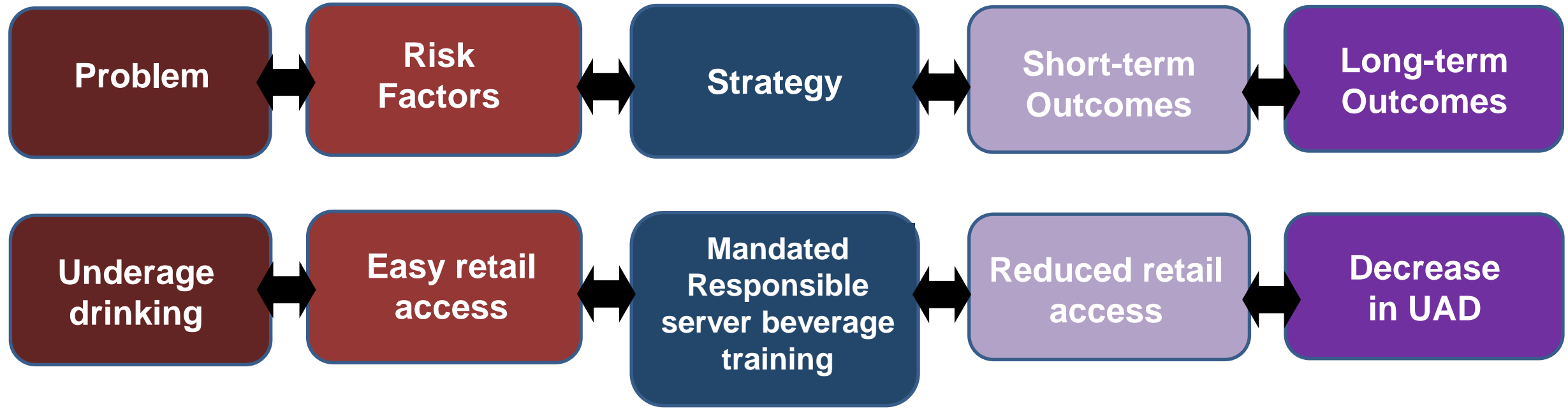
What changes have you seen in your community as a result of a policy?



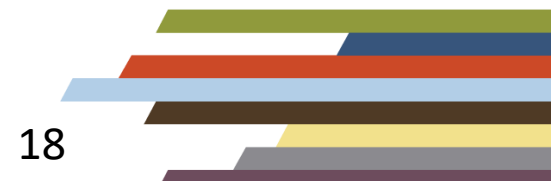
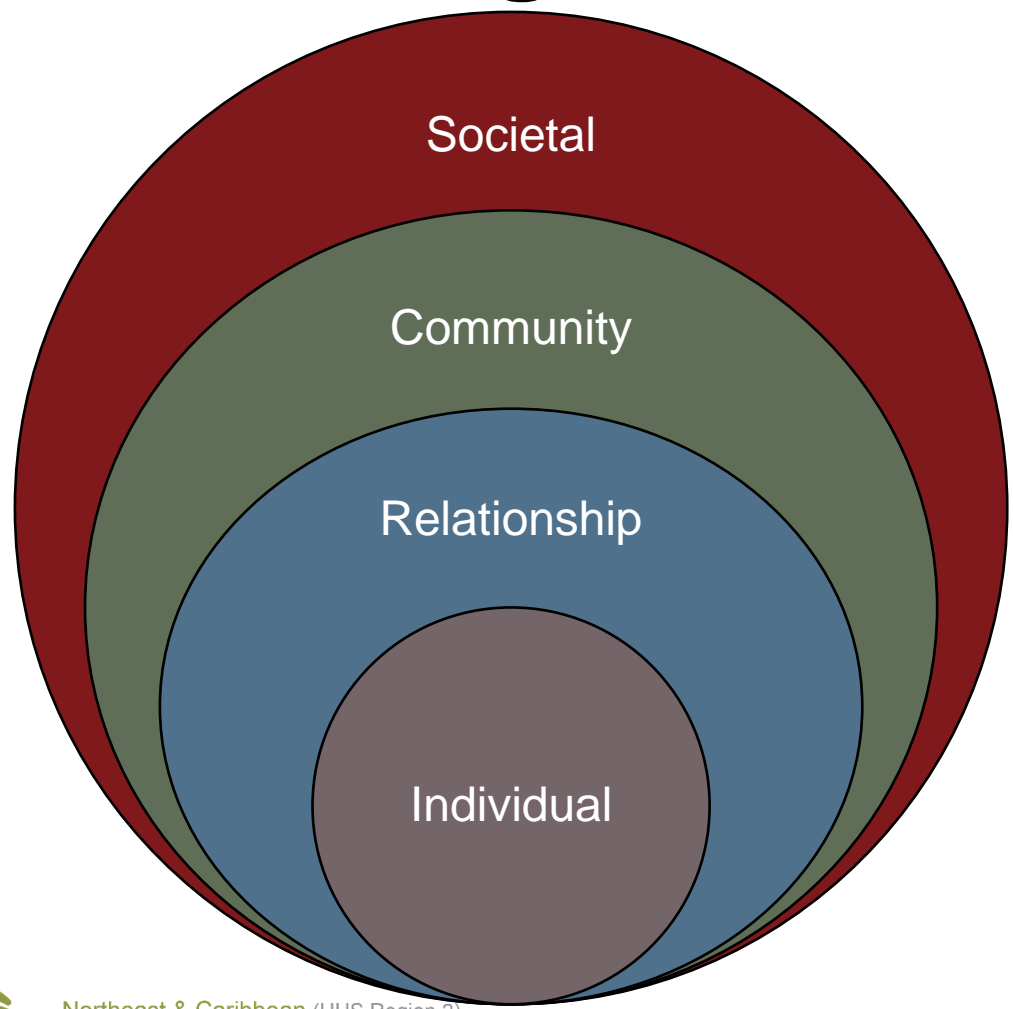
# Considerations for Policy Development



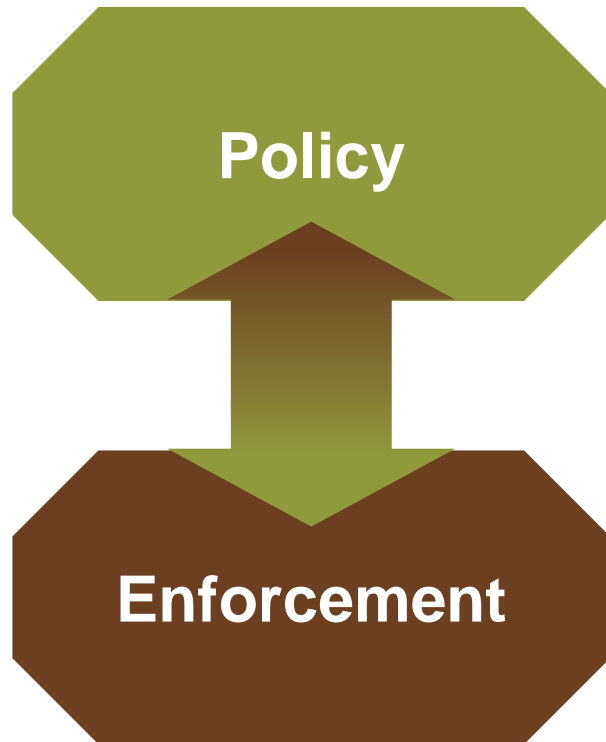
# Aligning your Policy Strategy: Example



# Multiple Policies Across the Socio-ecological Framework



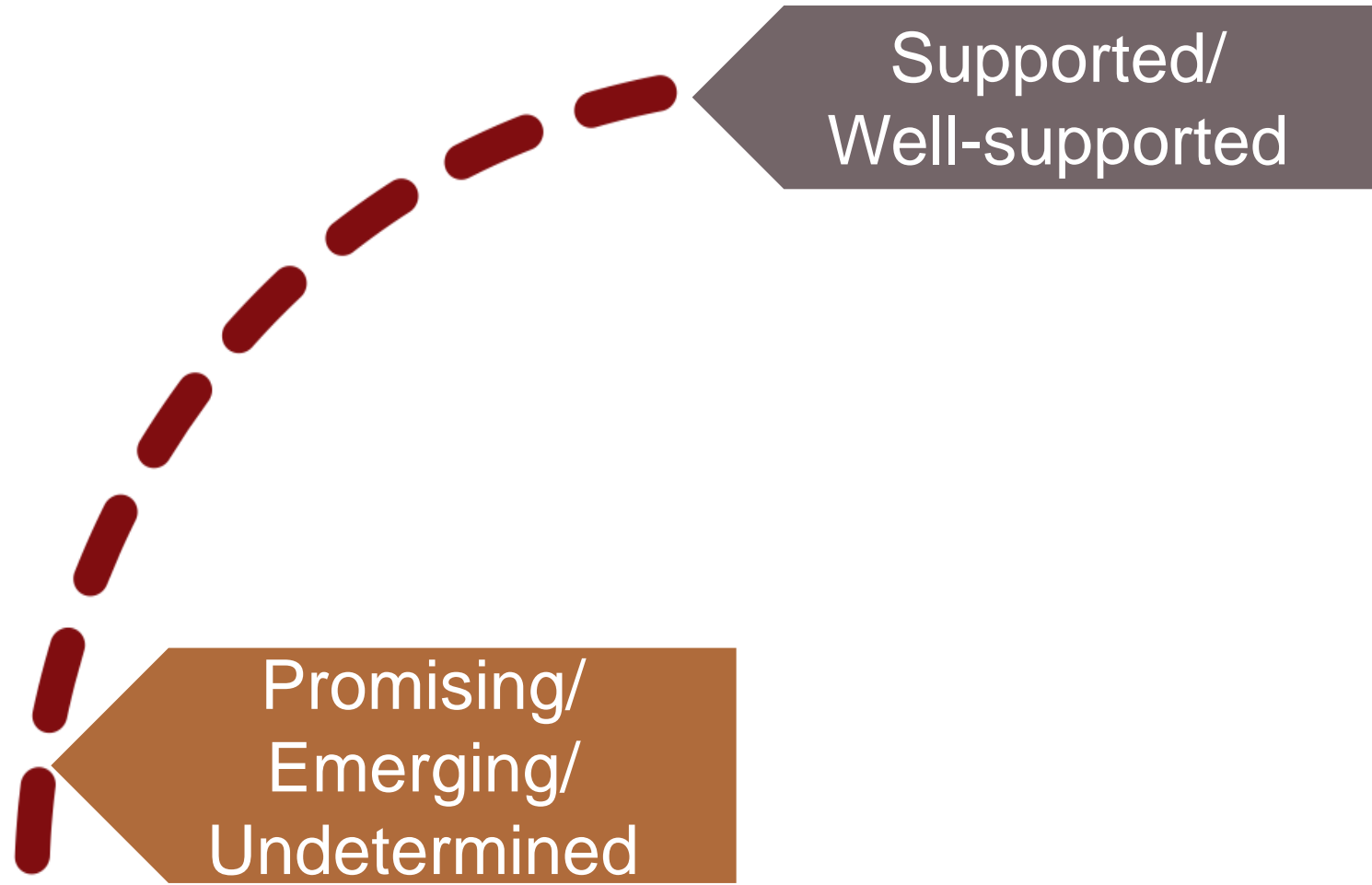
# The Relationship Between Policy and Enforcement



- Policy alone does not imply enforcement.
- Enforcement alone won't work if the policy isn't appropriate for or accepted by the general population.
- Policy and enforcement are designed and implemented by two different systems.

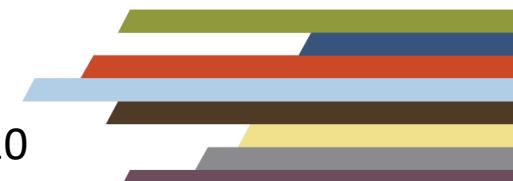


# Evidence-based Continuum

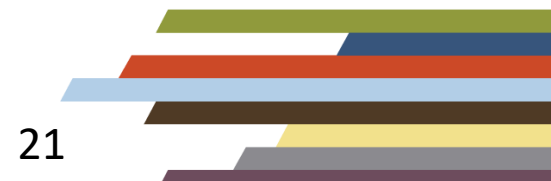
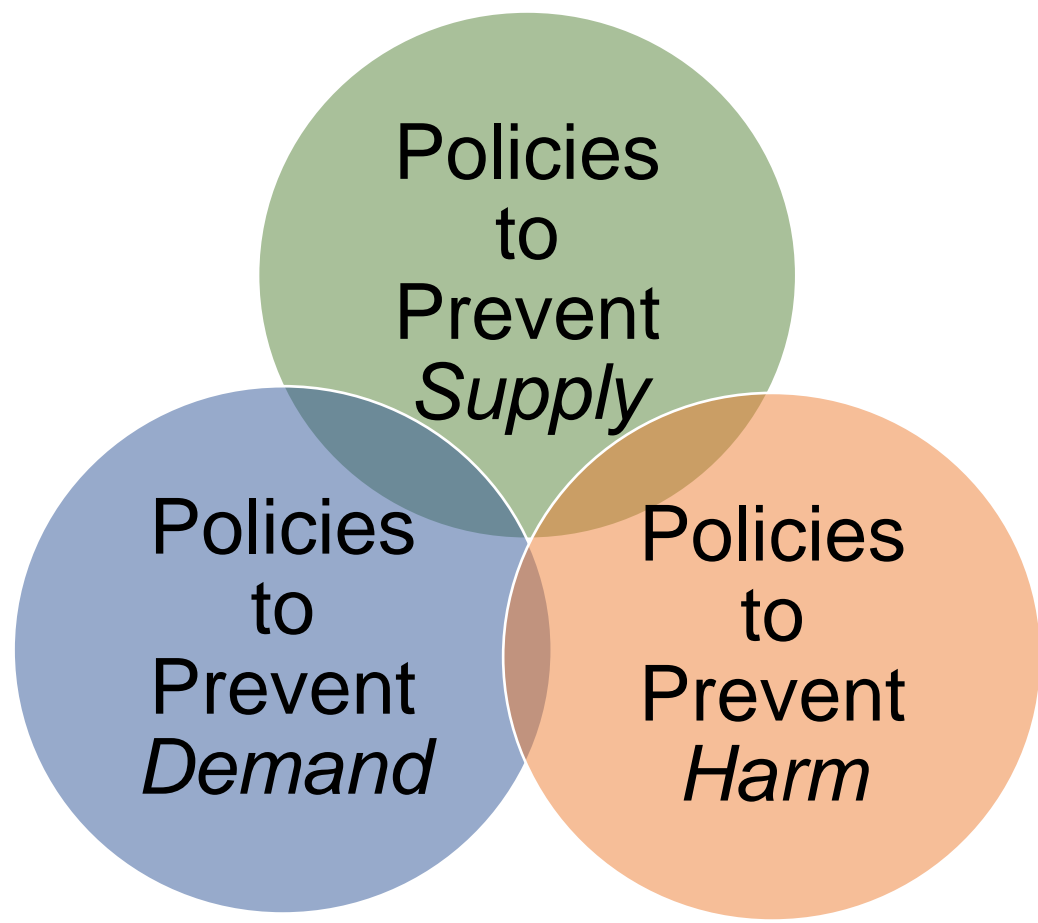


Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC** Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



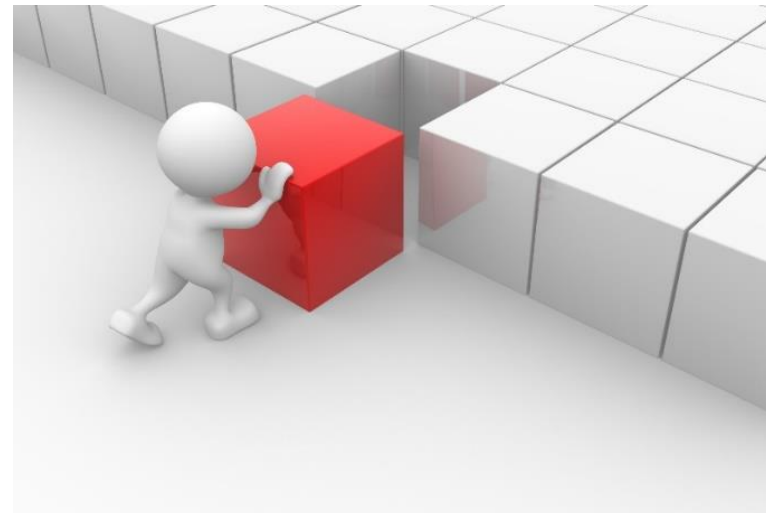
# Policies to Prevent Substance Use/Misuse



# Discussion

Policy work isn't as simple as finding a policy from a neighboring town and adopting it.

What is necessary ***before*** adopting a policy?



# Essential Ingredients

- History
- Community readiness
- Political will
- Engaging the right partners at the right time
- Timing



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

PTTC

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Alcohol Policies



# Effective Alcohol Policies

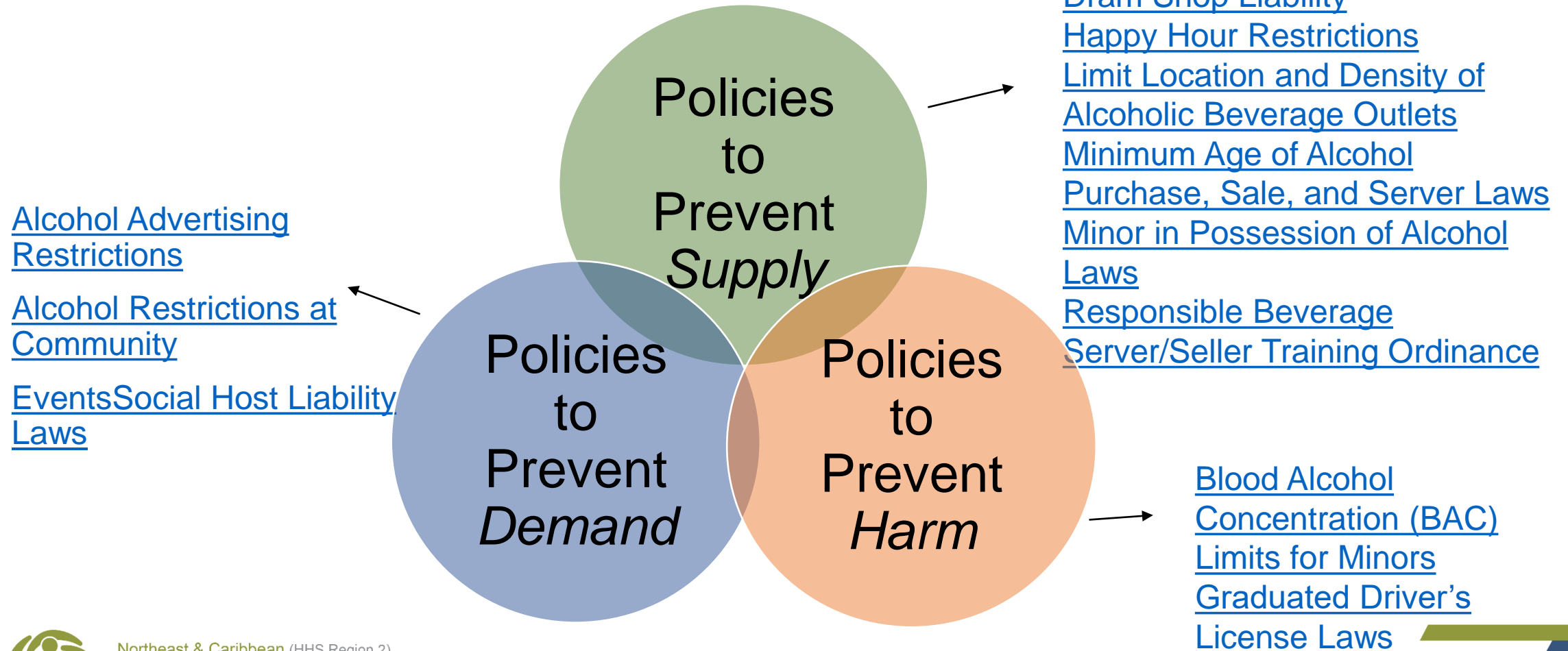
- Hold adults accountable.
- Increase the price of alcohol.
- Provide deterrents to using alcohol or incentives for not using.
- Restrict use and sale of alcohol.
- Restrict alcohol advertising that targets young people.
- Educate the public about increased enforcement efforts.



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC** Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Effective Alcohol Policy



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

PTTC

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Poll

Which of the following policies would you like to learn more about?



# **Non-Medical Use of Prescription Drug Policies**

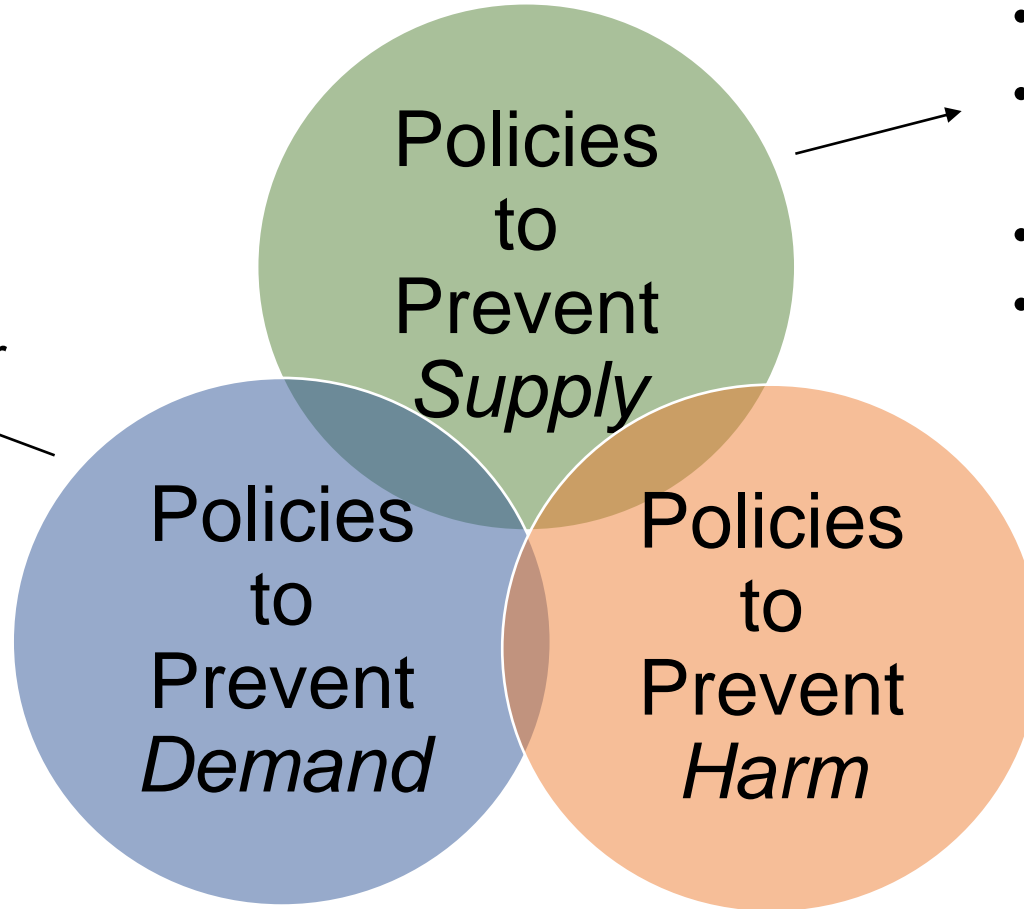
# Poll

What NMUPD policies exist in your community?



# Policies to Prevent NMUPD

- Patient Education Mandate
- Prescriber Education Mandate
- Direct-to-Consumer Advertising Restrictions



- Mandate use of PDMP
- Restricting Internet Access Prescription Drugs
- Delisting Prescription Drugs
- Doctor Shopping Laws

- Mandated Harm Reduction Training Law Enforcement
- Abuse Deterrent Drug Formulations
- State Naloxone Access Laws



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

PTTC

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# Policies to Reduce Supply: Benefits and Cautions (NMUPD Example)

## Benefits

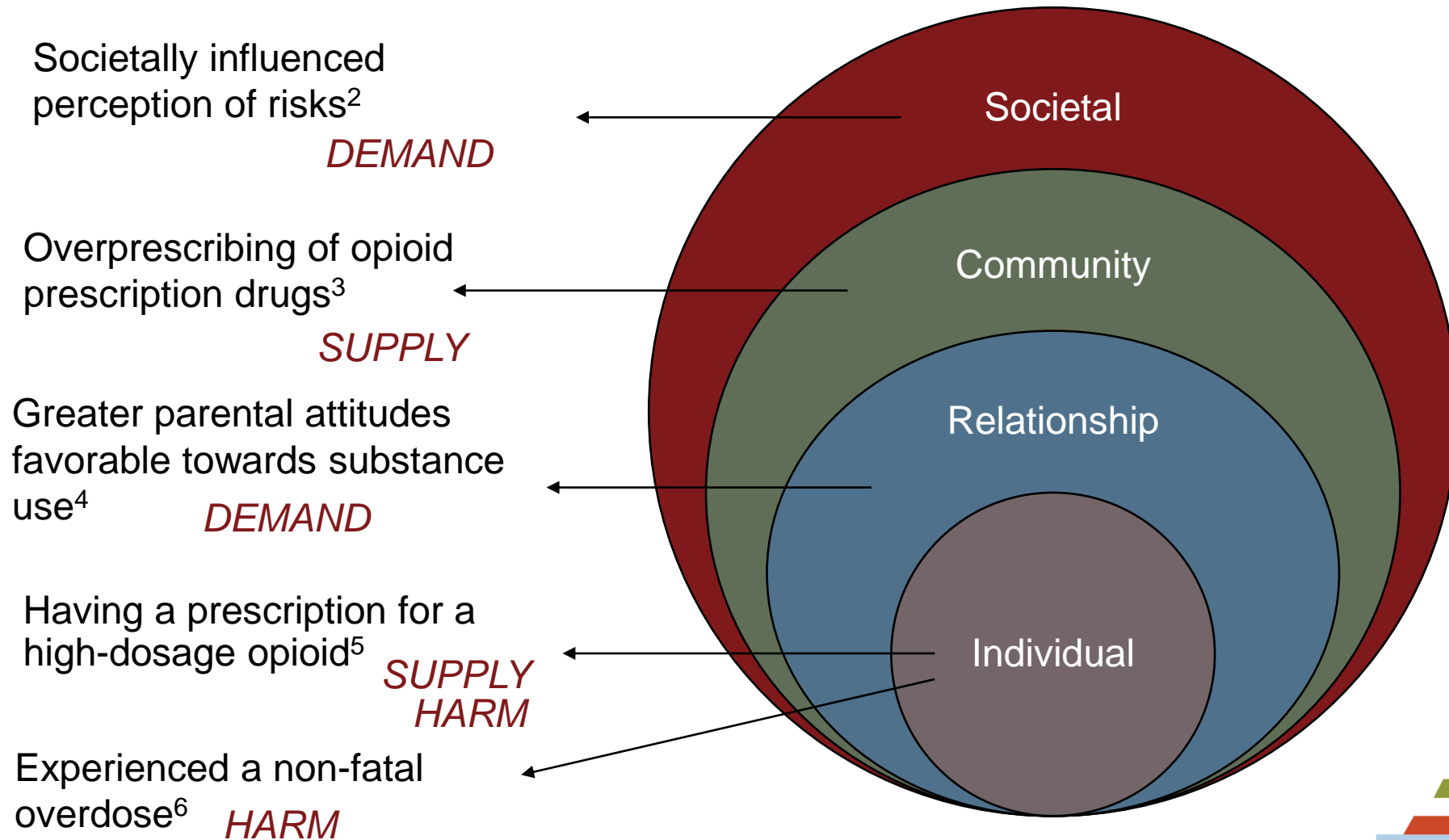
- Can reduce NMUPD
- Can reduce Rx drug diversion
- Can reduce risk of dependency and overdose

## Cautions

- Can reduce legitimate access
- Can reduce access among individuals with opioid dependence (which can lead to increased risk of using illicit drugs)



# Risk and Protective Factors for NMUPD and Prescription Opioid Overdose





# How Do We Select the Most Effective Policy?

- Fit: aligned with strategic plan & identified risk and protective factors
- Greatest impact
- Readiness
- Feasibility to implement given your resources
- Funding Restrictions



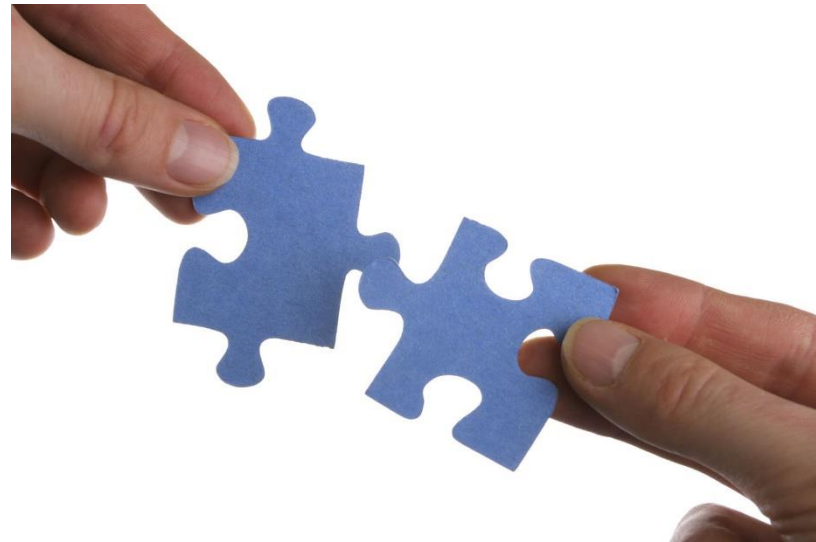
Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC** Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

# **Common Challenges and Potential Solutions**

# Poll

What are some of the potential challenges that you have seen implementing a policy in your community?



# Common Challenges

- We knew what policy we needed to pass, but we could not get our stakeholders onboard.
- We got a champion on board, passed the policy, but it isn't enforced.
- There are no resources available to implement the policy as written.

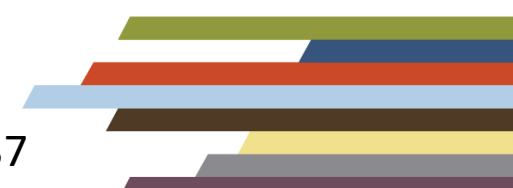


# Questions



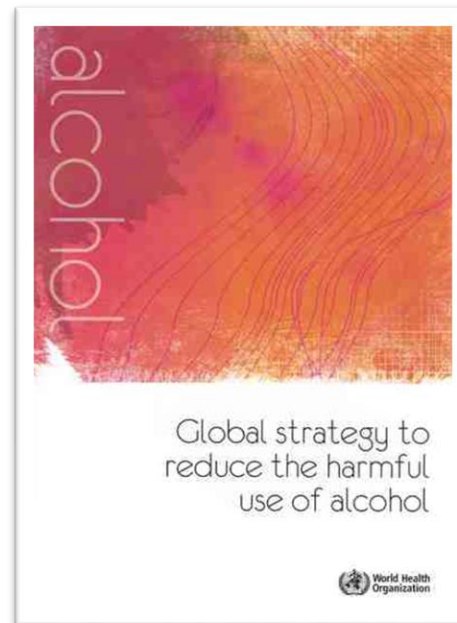
Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC** Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



# Guides and Resources

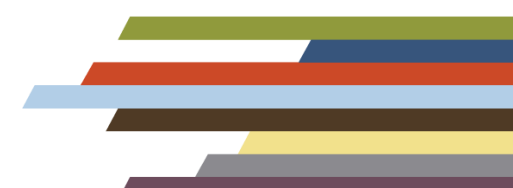
- [WHO's Global Strategy to Reduce the Harmful Use of Alcohol](#)
- WHO: Ten Areas for National Action on Alcohol
- SAMHSA: [Laws-regulations](#)
- [Great Lakes PTTC resource on effective alcohol policy](#)
- SAMHSA
- [Prevention Solutions@EDC](#)
- [Community Toolbox](#)



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

PTTC

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



# Takeaways

- What did you learn today that you didn't know before this webinar?
- Share any reflections that come to mind based on today's webinar.

# Thank you!

Don't hesitate to contact us with questions or comments!

Education Development Center (EDC) Point of  
Contact:

**Jessica Goldberg, MSW, MPH**  
**Training and Technical Assistance Specialist**  
**PTTC, Region 2**  
[jgoldberg@edc.org](mailto:jgoldberg@edc.org)



Northeast & Caribbean (HHS Region 2)

**PTTC**

Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network  
Funded by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration



# References

1. Toomey, T. L., & Wagenaar, A. C. (1999). Policy options for prevention: the case of alcohol. *Journal of public health policy, 20*(2), 192-213.
2. Honeycutt, S., Leeman, J., McCarthy, W. J., Bastani, R., Carter-Edwards, L., Clark, H., & Kegler, M. (2015). Evaluating Policy, Systems, and Environmental Change Interventions: Lessons Learned From CDC's Prevention Research Centers. *Preventing chronic disease, 12*, E174-E174.
3. Fisher D. A., (1999) Environmental Prevention Strategies: An Introduction and Overview, *Environmental Prevention Strategies: Putting Theory Into Practice, Training and Resource Guide*. Deborah A. Fisher
4. Klitzner M. (1999). Integrating environmental change theory into prevention practice. In: Environmental Prevention Strategies: Putting Theory Into Practice, Training and Resource Guide.
5. Birckmayer JD, et al. J Drug Educ. 2004.
6. Puddy, R. W. & Wilkins, N. (2011). Understanding Evidence Part 1: Best Available Research Evidence. A Guide to the Continuum of Evidence of Effectiveness. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
7. Peterson, A., Gilmore Powell, K., Treitler, P., Litterer, D., Borysc, S., Hallcom, D., (2019). The strategic prevention framework in community-based coalitions: Internal processes and associated changes in policies affecting adolescent substance abuse. *Children and Youth Services Review, 352-362*.

