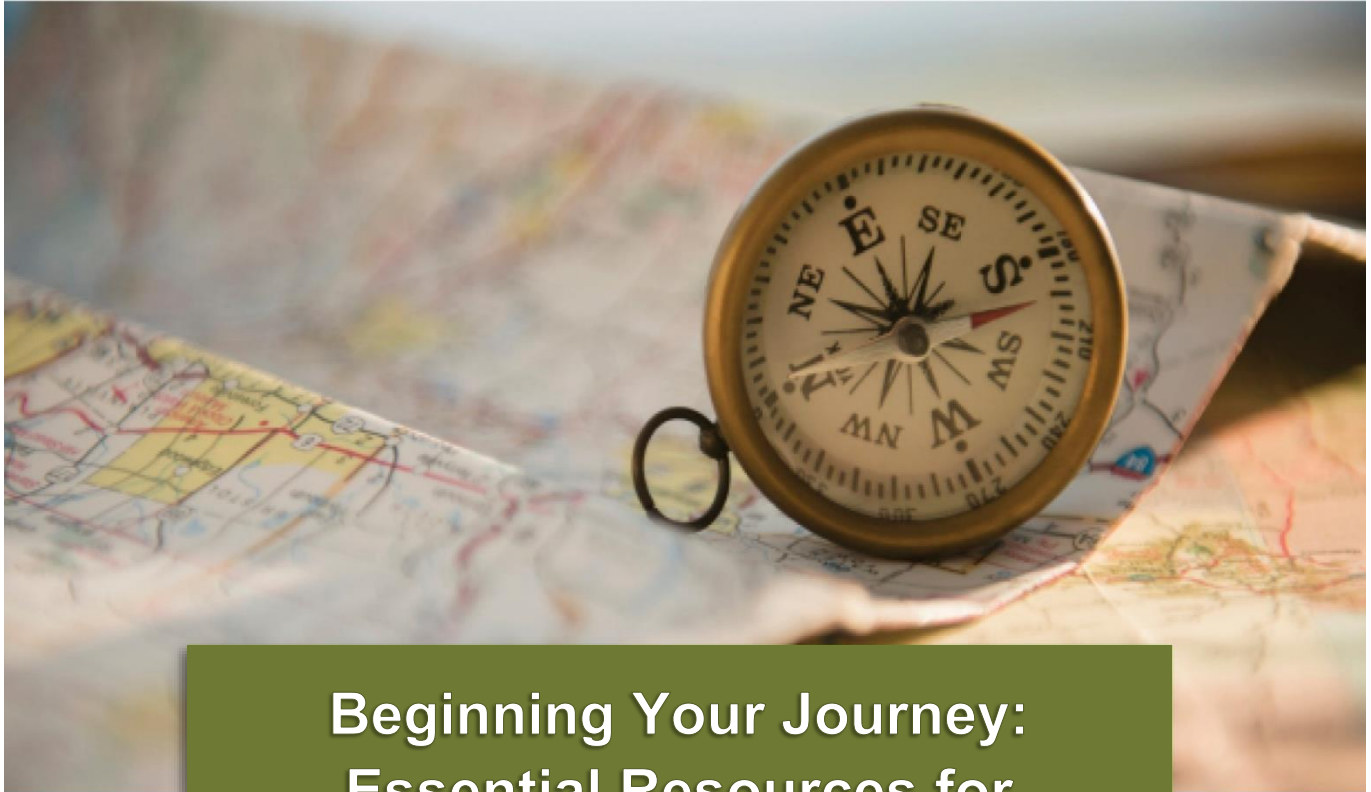




Great Lakes (HHS Region 5)

**PTTC**

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



**Beginning Your Journey:  
Essential Resources for  
New Prevention Practitioners**  
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At the time of this publication, Miriam E. Delphin-Rittmon, PhD, served as Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The opinions expressed herein are those of content creator and do not reflect the official position of the Department of Health and Human Services, SAMHSA. No official support or endorsement of DHHS, SAMHSA for the opinions described in this document is intended or should be inferred.

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### **About This Guide**

This document was created to assist new substance misuse prevention practitioners in finding prevention resources to broaden their understanding of the prevention field. The resources compiled within this guide include links to the source content.



## Essential Resources for New Prevention Practitioners

### *Prevention Science and the Prevention Profession*

[What is Prevention Science?](#)

Infographic: Prevention science identifies the issues affecting communities, the best practices for addressing those issues, and the most effective ways of disseminating this information.

[What Does NOT Work in Prevention](#)

Webinar: Learn effective and ineffective strategies for preventing substance misuse.

[Prevention Domain Video Series: What Do Prevention Specialists Do?](#)

Video Series: Learn about the prevention domains and how all the domains function together for effective prevention.

[Prevention Specialist Credentialing](#)

Interactive Online Resource: Find details about IC&RC certification requirements for the state in which you work using this interactive map of the United States.

[Test Prep Resources for the IC&RC Prevention Certification Exam](#)

Brief: This one-page brief highlights some of the resources individuals can access to help them study for the IC&RC Prevention Certification exam.

### *Risk and Protective Factors*

[The Science of Risk Factors](#)

Video: This short video from Communities That Care provides a succinct summary of research results on the risk factors for youth problem behaviors.

[Protective Factors: Social Development Strategy](#)

Video: This short video from Communities That Care illustrates how the Social Development Strategy operationalizes protective factors.

[Risk Factors for Youth Substance Misuse](#)

Webinar: Explore research-based risk factors that place youth at greater risk of substance misuse.

[Building Protective Factors Using the Social Development Strategy](#)

Webinar: Learn how to build protective factors in youth using the Social Development Strategy.

## Strategic Prevention Framework

- [Strategic Prevention Framework \(SPF\)](#)  
Guide: Learn about the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) *Strategic Prevention Framework*—a comprehensive guide to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate prevention practices and programs.
- [An Introduction to SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework](#)  
Job Aid: Introductory information on the guiding principles and steps of the SPF.
- [Collaboration Across SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework](#)  
Guide: Learn about increasing engagement and collaboration opportunities for each step of the SPF.
- [Applying the Strategic Prevention Framework and HHS Disparity Impact Measurement Framework to Address Behavioral Health Disparities](#)  
Infographic: Explore ways to address behavioral health disparities at each step of the SPF.

## Assessment

- [Action Steps for SPF Step 1: Assessment](#)  
Job Aid: A checklist guiding prevention practitioners through the assessment phase of the SPF.
- [Demystifying Data: Gathering and Using Local Risk and Protective Factor Data for Prevention – Part 1](#)  
Online Course: During this self-paced online course, you will learn the importance of collecting data for assessment and evaluation and what kind of data to gather. You will also gain a better understanding of existing sources of data, assessment of data gaps, and options for collecting primary data at the local level.
- [Demystifying Data: Gathering and Using Local Risk and Protective Factor Data for Prevention – Part 2](#)  
Online Course: In part two of this online course series, you will learn best practices for collecting quality data and how to determine the quantity of data needed for accurate assessments. You will also walk through the processes for prioritizing risk and protective factors when determining which prevention efforts are best suited to address the findings from data analyses.
- [Needs Assessment, Parts 1 & 2](#)  
Webinar Series: This two-part webinar series explores the Community Needs Assessment. Part 1 explores strategies for determining which substance use problems and related behaviors are having the greatest impact on a community, including how to find and use data to identify those risk and protective factors that may be influencing or contributing to these problems, and how to ensure that the data you collect reflects diverse cultural perspectives. Part 2 explores the value of assessing community capacity to assure a good fit between potential strategies and local conditions and how to use tools such as geo-spatial mapping to share your assessment findings.

- [Examining Data for Disparities](#)  
 Webinar: Part 4 of the *Health Equity in Prevention Series* explores the power of data -- the power for good, and the power to amplify bias. Data is the foundation of everything we do, so it's important that we learn to read and understand it correctly. With this skill set, you'll be able to identify structural inequities in your community and garner support for innovative strategies.
- [Building Capacity for Local Data Collection](#)  
 Webinar: This webinar focuses on understanding the types of data needed to conduct prevention needs assessments, progress monitoring, gathering local data, and the partners needed to find and use data effectively. In addition, this webinar discusses ways in which you can increase your organization's, coalition's, and/or community's capacity to use local data.

## *Capacity Building*

- [Action Steps for SPF Step 2: Capacity](#)  
 Job Aid: A checklist to guide prevention practitioners through the capacity phase of the Strategic Prevention Framework.
- [Ethics and Equity in Capacity Building](#)  
 Webinar: This webinar focuses on the importance of community engagement in capacity building.
- [A Focus on Coalition Best Practices](#)  
 Webinar: This webinar provides a deeper understanding of how and why we use coalitions in substance misuse prevention efforts.
- [Six Elements of Effective Coalitions Resource Toolkit](#)  
 Toolkit: The Prevention Technology Transfer Center Network developed The Six Elements of Effective Coalitions Resource Toolkit. Its overall mission is to strengthen prevention practitioners' capacities to organize, facilitate, and sustain effective prevention coalitions and collaborations that prevent substance misuse and its related consequences.
- [Managing Coalition Dynamics](#)  
 Guide: This tool offers an overview of the four stages of group development. Accompanied by tips for maximizing productivity, cohesion, reducing conflict, and how to steer group members toward long-term success to support leaders in managing group dynamics.
- [Coalitions and Partnerships Worksheets](#)  
 Worksheets: This page provides worksheets that coalitions can use to develop an effective recruitment plan by analyzing existing partnerships through a health equity lens.
- [Coalition Affinity Group Booster Videos](#)  
 Video Series: This video series outlines the Six Elements of Effective Coalitions Resource Toolkit. The six elements work together to support a coalition's capacity to achieve desired outcomes in a community.

## *Planning*

### [Action Steps for SPF Step 3: Planning](#)

Job Aid: This job aid includes a checklist to guide prevention practitioners through the planning phase of the Strategic Prevention Framework.

### [Selecting Evidence-Based Interventions: Finding the Best Fit](#)

Webinar: Perhaps the most critical decision that prevention staff consider is what set of interventions to implement, often with limited resources. This webinar provides an introduction to the best processes and resources available to use when making these critical decisions.

### [Guide to Online Registries for Substance Misuse Prevention Evidence-based Programs and Practices](#)

Guide: This document summarizes many available federal registries and online databases where prevention practitioners can begin their search for the “best fit” evidence-based prevention program, policy, or practice.

### [Planning Primer: Developing a Theory of Change, Logic Models and Strategic and Action Plans](#)

Primer: This document from CADCA provides clear guidelines for assisting your coalition to develop the products you need to carry out a comprehensive community plan to reduce substance misuse rates. It also helps you understand the dynamic planning process needed for coalition work.

### [Selecting Best-fit Programs and Practices: Guidance for Substance Misuse Prevention Practitioners](#)

Guide: This guide from SAMHSA walks you through the steps of identifying and selecting programs that will best fit your community’s unique needs.

## *Implementation*

### [Action Steps for SPF Step 4: Implementation](#)

Job Aid: This job aid includes a checklist to guide prevention practitioners through the implementation phase of the Strategic Prevention Framework.

### [Environmental Strategies Toolkit](#)

Toolkit: This guide was designed for substance misuse prevention professionals working in agencies and coalitions as a set of practical tools to support the implementation of three foundational environmental prevention strategies: policy, enforcement, and media.

### [Implementing Community-Level Policies to Prevent Alcohol Misuse](#)

Guide: This guide from SAMHSA provides a compendium of key policies for the prevention of alcohol misuse that have been identified as evidence-based by robust scientific literature.

### [Selecting and Implementing Evidence-based Practices to Address Substance Misuse Among Young Adults](#)

Webinar: Learn about the process of developing an evidence-based guide on substance misuse prevention for young adults.

## *Evaluation*

[Action Steps for SPF Step 5: Evaluation](#)

Job Aid: This job aid includes a checklist to guide prevention practitioners through the evaluation phase of the of the Strategic Prevention Framework.

[Introduction to Evaluation](#)

Website: This interactive resource from the Community Toolkit provides in-depth information on evaluation of prevention programs.

[Logic Models: Mapping Your Prevention Efforts](#)

Online Course: This self-paced online course is for prevention practitioners to help them understand logic models, and provide guidance for building a logic model for their prevention program.

[How to Create a Logic Model for Substance Misuse Prevention Curricula](#)

Job Aid: This document aids preventionists as they work through the process of creating an effective logic model. Effective logic models act as a roadmap that tells your prevention workgroup or coalition where it is starting from, where it is going, how it will get where it is going, and if it is going in the right direction.

[Evaluation Primer: Setting the Context for a Community Coalition Evaluation](#)

Primer Manual: This primer from CADCA provides the basic tools each coalition needs to develop a comprehensive evaluation plan. In addition, it will help your coalition create and implement a local evaluation.

[Evaluating Prevention Programs: A Tip Sheet for Measuring What Doesn't Happen](#)

Factsheet: An overview of the evaluation step of the SPF, including a brief look at data collection, evaluation types, and logic models.

[Equity in Data and Evaluation](#)

Webinar: This session reviews the ethical standards and the values related to prevention data-related activities, including needs assessment and evaluation.

[How to Create a Pseudocode – Protecting Participant Anonymity](#)

Job Aid: Pseudocodes are used by evaluators to protect a participant's anonymity. Pseudocode means a "fake code" that severs the link between the data and the provider. This document explains pseudocodes and how to create them.

## *Sustainability*

[Sustainability Planning Toolkit](#)

Toolkit: This toolkit guides professionals in evaluating their strategic planning processes and interventions to determine what needs to be sustained and the best way to do so. The toolkit offers a five-step sustainability planning process to help communities move from understanding to action by identifying and securing the resources needed to maintain positive prevention outcomes beyond current funding.



- [Crosswalk of SPF Steps with Sustainability Milestones and Skills](#)  
Job Aid: This crosswalk identifies tasks commonly associated with each step of SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF). These steps align with sustainability milestones and practitioner skills needed to meet these milestones.
- [Everyday Sustainability: Building a Foundation for Sustainable Prevention Through the Strategic Prevention Framework \(SPF\)](#)  
Webinar: This webinar explores how to build sustainability into each step of the SPF process through our daily prevention work.
- [Sustainability: Don't Leave your Change to Chance](#)  
Virtual Workshop: This interactive virtual workshop focuses on the art of sustainability and how we maintain the human, social, and material resources needed to achieve long-term goals for community change.
- [Strategies for Prevention Sustainability: Advancing Sustainability through Strategic Partnerships Webinar](#)  
Webinar: This webinar provides practitioners with an approach to sustainability that includes focusing on maintaining positive outcomes, effective processes and interventions that work.

## *Cultural Responsiveness*

- [The Role of Preventionists in Accelerating Health Equity and Communities of Wellbeing](#)  
Webinar: This recorded session outlines the skills needed for a prevention workforce prepared to accelerate equity, justice, and community-trauma-informed approaches within vulnerable populations.
- [Cultural Competency vs. Cultural Humility EDI Infographic](#)  
Infographic: A visual aid focused on methods of approaching others with cultural humility.
- [Building a Habit of Cultural Humility in Prevention](#)  
Webinar: The terms "cultural competency" and "cultural humility" are often used interchangeably when they are, in fact, very different. This webinar recording provides a solid foundation for understanding the difference between cultural competency and cultural humility.

## *Health Equity & Social Determinants of Health*

- [Social Determinants of Health](#)  
Online Course: This self-paced three-part course provides a comprehensive overview of the social determinants of health and examines the influence they have on substance use. It also discusses the impacts a public health approach can have on them, reviews how to turn prevention knowledge into actionable processes, and provides recommendations on how to address them through the principles of prevention science and using environmental and other strategies.
- [Why Health Equity Matters in Prevention](#)  
Webinar: Learn more about why health equity matters in substance misuse prevention.



[Preventing and Addressing Behavioral Health Disparities among LGBTQI2-S Youth and Adults](#)

Webinar: This session focuses on addressing and preventing behavioral health disparities among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, intersex, and two-spirit (LGBTQI2-S) youth and adult populations in southeast (HHS Region 4) communities.

[Community Engagement: An Essential Component of an Effective and Equitable Substance Use Prevention System](#)

Guide: Information on how community engagement can play a critical role in the equitable scale-up of evidence-based programs and policies within the substance use prevention system.

[Culture As Medicine: Healing Through Connection](#)

Webinar: This webinar focuses on how research shows that cultural connections are important to one's well-being, especially in indigenous populations, and how integrating culture is a key component in health promotion and disease prevention programs.

[Connecting Prevention Specialists to Native Communities](#)

Guide: This product is designed for Prevention Specialists working with Native Communities. Topics include cultural connectedness, spiritual activity, traditional activity, cultural identity, and cultural humility.

## *Harm Reduction*

[Harm Reduction](#)

Video: Learn more about the importance of harm reduction and breaks down some of the stigma often associated with this topic.

[Understanding the Role of Prevention in Harm Reduction Efforts](#)

Brief: This brief provides an overview of harm reduction and the specific actions preventionists can take to augment harm reduction efforts in their local communities.

[Action Steps for Prevention Practitioners to Enhance Harm Reduction Efforts](#)

Job Aid: This job aid provides a checklist of actions prevention practitioners can take to enhance harm reduction efforts.

[Understanding Harm Reduction as Prevention](#)

Podcast: SAMHSA Regional Administrator, Kimberly Nelson, discusses recent data trends and how the future of harm reduction fits into the prevention of tomorrow. (Podcast #54)

[The Role of Prevention in Harm Reduction Efforts](#)

Website: This website page is a collection of resources and tools that can assist preventionists in understanding harm reduction and how prevention can enhance harm reduction efforts in their local communities.

[Prevention's Role in Harm Reduction](#)

Webinar: Learn about the steps prevention practitioners can take to support harm reduction efforts, including: promoting community readiness to support harm reduction approaches, addressing substance use disorder-related stigma, and linking harm reduction efforts to more "upstream" efforts.

## *Prevention Ethics*

[Ethics in Prevention Foundations: A Guide for Substance Misuse Prevention Practitioners](#)

Online Course: This 3-hour self-paced course is based on the moderated Ethics in Prevention: A Guide for Substance Misuse Prevention Practitioners. This course is appropriate for anyone working in the field of substance abuse prevention. It covers key terminology, the six principles in the Prevention Code of Ethics, and a decision-making process to use when faced with an ethical dilemma.

[Prevention Code of Ethics](#)

Document: This Prevention Think Tank Code of Ethics is a valuable resource for those applying to become Certified Prevention Specialists and others looking for resources on Prevention Ethics.

[Advanced Ethics – 6-Part Series](#)

Webinar Series: This series takes an in-depth look at how creating equity in program planning is a fundamental ethical practice.

