

The Partnership Convening
Friday, September 6, 2024
10:00 - 11:30 AM ET



Meeting Minutes

This convening features a presentation from Laurie Barger Stuter, CEO and founder of Growth Partners on the **2023 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data**. Laurie brings over **30 years of experience in public and behavioral health** and will provide **valuable insights into the YRBS data**.

Attendees (39): Abigail Ham, Amy Michaels, Andrea Rancatore, Andrea Smith, Barbara Crouse, Corinne Shae, Dan Andrus, Deryn Smith, Jen Thomas, Jessica Morton, JoAnne Miles-Holmes, Julia Letourneau, Kate Frey, Kate Merrigan, Kathleen Mullen, Kelley Caravona, Kristle Sylvester, Lynne Anderson, Marissa Carlson, Maura McGowan, Melissa Allen, Melissa Silvey, Michaela Safford, Monica Gallant, Phillip Rousseau, Shana Karlstrand, Stephanie Savard, Elizabeth Brochu, Kate McDonald

CHI/JSI: Julie Yerkes, Amy Daniels, Audrey Foxx, Emma Kane, Christin D'Ovidio, Ryan Barry, Martha Bradley

Presenter(s):

- Julie Yerkes, Prevention Programs Manager at JSI and The Partnership
- Laurie Barger Stuter, CEO and founder of Growth Partners

Please [complete our meeting evaluation here](#). CEUs and attendance certificates are available for those who fill out the evaluation form.

1. Welcome and Introductions (Julie Yerkes)

2. Presentation from Growth Partners

- Overview of 2023 YRBS data (survey conducted in 2021- Pandemic)
 - Focus Areas: (demographics, health behaviors and conditions, substance use behaviors, student experiences)
 - Questions shift to reflect current areas of interest (ie: current focuses on mental health, violence, vaping, ACES, parent/child relationship, parental disapproval)

- States can personalize question sets
- Types of YRBS analysis and how NH communities are using YRBS data
 - YRBS has strong validity
 - Basic Analysis (uses descriptive data to identify prevalence, incidence, and trends)
 - Advanced Analysis (outcome variables, explanatory variables, P-value. Interconnectedness between substance use and mental health outcomes)
 - YRBS data can be used to raise awareness
- Trends involving substance use and mental health issues among NH students
 - Students who reported having increased mental health issues such as hopelessness were more likely to use vapes
 - Although prevalence has decreased, there is still an upward trend in depression among students since 2009
 - NH students are exceeding the national rates of seriously considering suicide
- Trends involving substance use and access to substances
 - There is a statistically significant relationship between students who reported having easy access to marijuana and those who reported using substances such as nicotine and alcohol
 - NH students report low rates of easy access to prescription drugs but higher rates of easy access to alcohol and marijuana
- Trends involving general substance use
 - Current Marijuana use has decreased over the past 5 years
 - Current Alcohol use has decreased slightly compared to the previous survey year
 - Impaired driving increasing in NH males
 - The prevalence of current vaping for female students has outpaced male students since 2019
 - NH students consistently report higher rates of daily vaping than their peers nationally
 - NH students reported a slightly higher than-average incidence of having received illegal substances at school
 - Connection between substance use and academic performance
- Trends involving violence and bullying
 - Nationally and in NH, reports of violence increasing (sexual violence)
 - Closely tied to substance use
 - Dating Violence increasing since 2017, especially among females
 - NH Females are reporting higher rates of bullying than in previous years

- YRBS in New Hampshire
 - Declining participation in 2021 and 2023 left several regions without a YRBS report (four regions in 2023)
- New resources for promoting the YRBS data
- Media Kit
 - NH Technical Assistance Center (NHTAC) is finalizing a comprehensive YRBS Media Kit which includes tools and resources to help you promote YRBS in your community
 - This will be available soon
- NHTAC.org YRBS explainer video

3. Partner Updates

- **Maura McGowan, NH Teen Institute:** [Leaders in Prevention Program](#)
 - Middle School prevention program
 - [Prevention COP](#) starting Monday 9/9
- **Jessica Morton:**
 - NH Department of Public Health Services, Tobacco Prevention and Control Program is spearheading a new, NH-based youth prevention campaign that prioritizes protective factors, builds resilience, and focuses on the needs youth have voiced around mental health and managing adversity. The campaign is not vaping-specific but instead focuses on preventing all risk factors and behaviors. Please reach out to the NH TPCP to be a part of this campaign as they build the Advisory Board and campaign supporters via Jessica Morton @ jessica.e.morton@dhhs.nh.gov
- **Jen Thomas:** Looking for contacts or options for a youth vaping presentation
 - Partnership has resources, toolkit but not ready yet
 - Breathe, NH
 - Laurie Warnock from Poison Control
- **Deryn Smith, Greater Sullivan Regional Public Health Network**
 - Young Adult Advisory Council- recruiting members (ages 16-18)
 - [Application](#)

4. Partnership Updates

- New Blog: [Empowering New Hampshire Communities on International Overdose Awareness Day](#)
- Web Updates:
 - [Sober Curious Rebrand](#)

- [Cannabis- Get the Facts Page](#)
- Upcoming
 - Sober October Social Media Toolkit
 - Bullying Prevention Social Media Toolkit
- Coming Spring 2025 - The 1st Annual NH Substance Use Prevention Conference! This conference is in it's early planning phases and is a collaboration between the NH Department of Public Health Services, Tobacco Prevention and Control Program, NH Department of Health Human Services, Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services, the NH Student Assistance Program Network and The Partnership @drugfreeNH. Representatives will be reaching out to enhance the planning committee. Please reach out to ThePartnership@jsi.com for information on becoming a sponsor and getting involved. More information to come!