

**The Partnership
Convening Friday,
September 5, 2025
10:00 - 11:30 AM ET**



Meeting Minutes

This convening provides information to help us challenge common myths about adolescent substance use and apply research-based strategies that support prevention, reduce stigma, and encourage healthy behaviors.

Attendees (35): see below

Host: CHI/JSI

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

[Watch the recording here.](#)

1. **Welcome** (Julie Yerkes)
2. **Adolescent Substance Use Prevention Presentation** (Corinne Shea & Nancy Pasquale)
 - **Research & Data:** Corinne presented on adolescent brain vulnerability, emphasizing the goal of no substance use (alcohol, nicotine, cannabis, or other drugs) before age 21. Highlighted positive trends of increasing non-use among high school seniors.
 - **Strategies:** Discussed social norming, reframing risky behaviors, increasing protective factors, and the importance of setting a clear health goal.
 - **Messaging:** Stressed the need for non-stigmatizing language, positive reinforcement, and amplifying youth voices.
 - **Youth Engagement:** Nancy shared youth-driven prevention approaches, including the “One Choice” project now used in 30+ states. Highlighted anonymous wall tiles with personal “why” statements and caregiver handouts in English/Spanish.
3. **Discussion & Frameworks** (Corinne Shea & Nancy Pasquale)
 - Corinne and Nancy outlined prevention frameworks rooted in research and social determinants of health.
 - Emphasized strategies for engaging youth across different communities and tailoring approaches.

5. Partner Updates & Resources Shared

- [Recovery Stories \(Makin' It Happen\)](#) – Inviting community members to share stories of recovery, progress, and hope through the My Recovery Gallery.
- [Connor's Climb Foundation](#) – Provides suicide prevention education and resources for youth, educators, and communities
- [Life of an Athlete / Leadership in Prevention \(NH Teen Institute\)](#) – Offers youth leadership programs and prevention resources to support healthy decision-making
- [enCompass Training \(Makin' It Happen\)](#) – An interactive 8-hour program on the science of addiction, designed to equip participants with skills and tools to support and respond to someone who needs help.
- [Safety First Curriculum \(Stanford REACH Lab\)](#) – A free, evidence-informed, harm-reduction-based drug intervention curriculum for high school students that includes 13 lessons covering alcohol, opioids/fentanyl, psychedelics, and more—designed to promote abstinence while equipping students who may be experimenting with accurate information to reduce harm. Available with lesson plans, parent letters, infographics, and resources in multiple languages.

6. Partnership Updates

- [Blog: Substance Misuse Prevention is a Public Health Priority – New Hampshire's Regional Public Health Networks are Leading Local Prevention Efforts](#)
- [Blog: It's a Wrap: The Power of Prevention Podcast Series Signs Off](#)
- [Youth Vaping Prevention Resources](#)
- [More Good Mornings: Youth Vaping Prevention](#)

Attendees

- Julie Yerkes: julie.yerkes@jsi.org
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