# AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

**AgendaTitle:**
Correspondence; Letter of Support; Gunnison County Substance Abuse Prevention Project and One Voice Colorado Coalition

**Action Requested:** Board of County Commissioners' Signature

**Parties to the Agreement:**

**Term Begins:** **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

**Summary:**
Matthew Kuehlhorn has requested signature of the attached letter, and he has deferred to the Board the decision about to whom to address the letter.

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Submitted by:** Katherine Haase **Submitter's Email Address:** khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

**Finance Review:** ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

**County Attorney Review:** ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

**County Manager Review:**

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 8/14/2014

○ Consent Agenda ◉ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 5

Agenda Date: 8/19/2014 Follow Up Agenda Date:

*Revised April 2013*

**One Voice Colorado Coalition aims to reduce underage drinking and underage marijuana use by promoting evidence-based substance use prevention strategies.**

**What is Substance Use Prevention?** Substance Use Prevention includes any evidenced-based activities to avoid substance misuse or abuse and to reduce various social and health impacts of substance use disorders.

**Effective substance use prevention is a tool box with certified mechanics at work. (**Those *certified mechanics* are Certified Prevention Specialists recognized, and re-certified, by the International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium). The tools in today's tool box are based on 6 evidenced-based strategies developed by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) at the the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration SAMSHA)

- Identifying those with high risk drug use behavior and referring for appropriate services or programs
- Researched-based social and emotional educational curriculums,
- Evidence-based environmental strategies such as store design policy, marketing restrictions, taxes on specific substances, etc.
- Information & sharing this about local data, awareness and knowledge of substance use and abuse effects and impacts.
- Alternative activities to engage a specific population, i.e. teens, to keep them occupied in healthy activities and to develop life skills.
- Community organizing to assist communities in providing prevention education and treatment services.

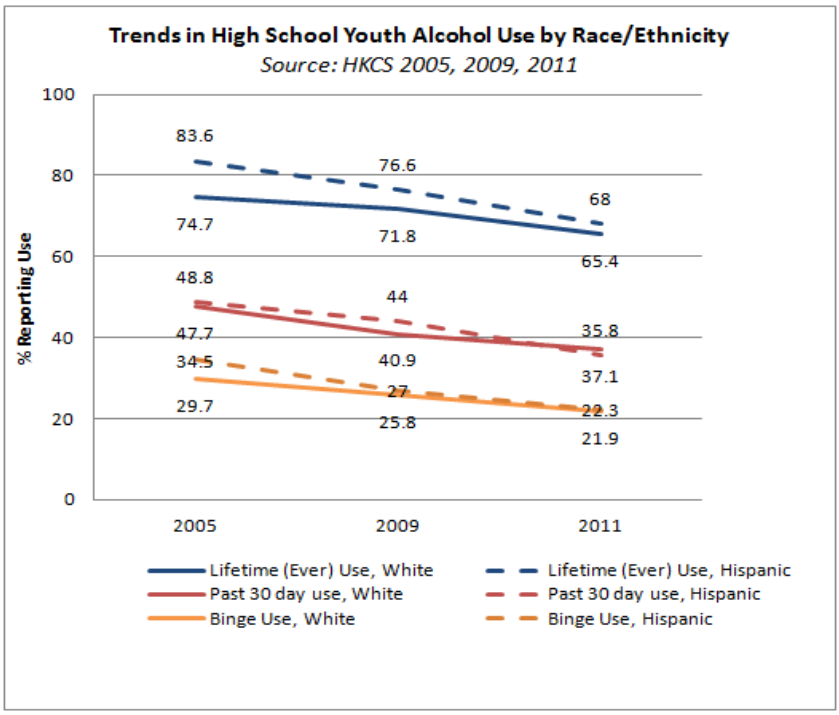
Effective substance use disorder prevention can yield major economic dividends. For every dollar invested in prevention, $2.00 to $20.00 can be saved.

**Community-Based Coalitions Are Effective**

Community Coalitions are comprised of parents, school districts and their teachers, law enforcement, businesses, religious leaders, health providers, faith-based organizations and other community activists and stakeholders who are mobilizing at the local level to make their communities safer, healthier and drug-free. The key to effective substance use prevention is implementing multiple SAMHSA/CSAP evidence-based strategies across multiple sectors. Community Coalitions provide the ability to do this.

For example, over the past several years, Community Coalitions in Adams, Denver, Pueblo and Weld counties implemented evidenced based strategies which significantly contributed to the reduction of underage drinking and binge drinking among Latino and White youth. This significant impact was made possible through the Colorado Prevention Partnership for Success grant funded by the Office of Behavioral Health within the Department of Colorado Human Services.

(2011 data show a statistically significant change for lifetime, 30 day and binge use for both White and Hispanic students compared to 2005.)




**Call to Action:**
With the legalization of marijuana, Colorado citizens are concerned about the physical and psychological health impacts on youth in Colorado. One Voice Colorado believes that Community Based Coalitions can provide some of the most cost-effective and impactful substance use prevention strategies to build healthy and strong Colorado communities and empower youth to build on their strengths and assets. Therefore, we ask that the Marijuana Review Committee dedicate revenue from the Marijuana Industry to the federally designated Single State Authority (SSA) for substance use prevention and treatment - this is the Office of Behavioral Health, within the Colorado Department of Human Services. The SSA currently funds grant programs to ensure state-local partnerships for Community Prevention Coalitions.

**About One Voice**

One Voice Colorado is a coalition of individuals and groups invested in promoting statewide solutions to public health and safety problems. To reduce underage drinking and underage marijuana use and the associated harms, One Voice Colorado empowers and engages community partners from throughout the State in conversations with State and local leaders about solutions that work.

**Board Members:**

Matthew Kuehlhorn, Matt Sundeen, Alyssa Marks, Beckah Terlouw, Kathleen Shoaf, Lindsey Breslin, May Martinez Hendershot, Moe Keller, Robyn Odendahl, Shelley Evans M.A., CAC II, Tim Webb, Tony Lacombe, Michelle Stecher

**Colorado Community Coalitions and Strategic Partners:**

Drug Policy Alliance, Pueblo, Adams County Prevention Partners, Weld County Prevention Partners, Denver Office of Drug Strategy, Eagle River Youth Coalition, Chaffee County Build A Generation, Teller Build A Generation, Gunnison County Substance Abuse Prevention Project, Colorado Providers Association

*For more information about the **One Voice Colorado Coalition** email onevoicecolorado@gmail.com or visit OneVoiceColorado.org*

August 19, 2014

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RE: One Voice Colorado

Dear ?,

The Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners supports the efforts of the Gunnison County Substance Abuse Prevention Project and the One Voice Colorado Coalition as they are highly effective community-based coalitions.

Because of their efforts, our communities are seeing positive changes. In 2006, 35% of all 6th through 12th grade students reported using alcohol in the past 30 days, and this percentage dropped to 22% in 2013. In 2006, 24% of all 6th through 12th grade students reported using prescription drugs without a prescription, and this percentage dropped to 11% in 2013. While marijuana-use rates remain at 13% for this age group (up from 11% since 2012), we anticipate an increase in use as marijuana becomes commercialized within Gunnison County.

We appreciate your efforts toward the dedication of revenue from the marijuana industry to the federally designated Single State Authority (SSA) for substance use prevention and treatment programs through the Office of Behavioral Health within the Colorado Department of Human Services. The SSA currently funds grant programs to support state-local partnerships for Community Prevention Coalitions, which will assist us with continuing the pattern of success that we are experiencing with regard to substance use.

Sincerely,

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| Paula Swenson, Chairperson | Phil Chamberland, Commissioner | Jonathan Houck, Commissioner |

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