

# PREVENTION SERVICES

## WHY ARE THEY VITAL?

Alcohol use by young people is dangerous, not only because of the risks associated with acute impairment, but also because of the threat to their long-term development and well-being. Underage alcohol use is associated with traffic crashes, violence, suicide, educational failure and other problem behaviors. In 2012, the Mayo Clinic released a study showing that costs associated with hospitalizations due to underage drinking were approximately \$755 million in the United States. Of that, \$505 million was directly related to treatment of injuries due to traffic accidents, assaults or fights.

According to the Center for Applied Research Solutions, "Cost benefit studies indicate that \$1 spent on substance abuse prevention can result in \$10 of long term savings."

## DID YOU KNOW?

Treatment priority is given to pregnant and/or parenting clients or applicants in the following order:

1. Pregnant injecting drug users;
2. Pregnant substance abusers;
3. Injecting drug users; and
4. All others

Contact the Kern County Mental Health Gate Team at 661-868-6453 or the Access Center at 661-868-8000

### MISSION Statement

Working together to achieve hope, healing and a meaningful life in the community.

### VISION Statement

People with mental illness and addictions recover to achieve their hopes and dreams, enjoy opportunities to learn, work, and contribute to their community.

### VALUES Statements

Hope, Healing, Community, Authority

We honor the potential in everyone

We value the whole person - mind, body and spirit

We focus on the person, not the illness

We embrace diversity and cultural competence

We acknowledge that relapse is not a personal failure

We recognize authority over our lives empowers us to make choices, solve problems and plan for the future



## PREVENTION SERVICES

PO Box 1000  
Bakersfield, CA 93302

661-868-6108  
Fax: 661-868-6150

Crisis Hotline 1-800-991-5272

[www.co.kern.ca.us/KCMH](http://www.co.kern.ca.us/KCMH)  
[kern.networkdofcare.mh](http://kern.networkdofcare.mh)



Commission on Accreditation  
of Rehabilitation Facilities

Kern County Mental Health has been accredited by CARF for the following programs: Mental Health Programs- Case Management; Children and Adolescents-Case Management & Crisis Stabilization; Integrated Alcohol & Other Drugs-Case Management & Children & Adolescents-Case Management; Employment Services-Community Employment Services



**Kern County Mental Health Department**

*Working together toward  
Hope, Recovery and Independence*

## PREVENTION SERVICES



## COMMUNITY BASED ENVIRONMENTAL RISK REDUCTION (CBERR)

Any alcohol use by young people is illegal, yet it is often easy for them to get alcohol either through buying it themselves, having adults buy it for them, or by taking it from home. Kern County wants to educate its communities about the issue of underage drinking and support them in reducing it. Kern County Mental Health developed mini-grants that community collaboratives or other grassroots organizations use to gather information and implement environmental prevention strategies to address the issue. CBERR programs have changed policy involving retail, social and public environments in their communities.

## INSTITUTE FOR PARENT EDUCATORS

Institute for Parent Educators is a forum to provide information to parents and others on alcohol and other drug topics throughout the year. Many of the parent educators serve those in court-ordered services. Children of parents involved in court-ordered services are at higher risk of engaging in alcohol or other drug use.

## KERN STOP METH NOW COALITION

The mission of the Kern Stop Meth Now Coalition is to reduce the impact of methamphetamine and other drugs on youth, families, businesses and communities through effective, evidence-based prevention, intervention and suppression strategies. Since 2008 the Kern Stop Meth Now Coalition has combined the efforts of law enforcement, public agencies, faith-based and service organizations, youth, citizens, parents, etc., to reduce methamphetamine use in Kern County. In 2015, the Coalition was awarded a federal Drug Free Communities Grant (DFC). The DFC Grant provides \$625,000 over five years to allow the Coalition to further efforts in community engagement and substance abuse prevention.



The Coalition is comprised of three committees and an Executive Board of community sector representatives which work in the areas of public safety, youth and family wellbeing and business. Each committee addresses areas related to substance use disorder prevention, including helping business owners understand the importance of having a Drug Free Workplace Policy; preventing perinatal substance abuse; providing support to local mentoring agencies and helping parents understand the importance of eating dinner as a family in preventing risky behaviors in youth.

## FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE (FNL) PROGRAMS

The Kern County Friday Night Live Partnership (KCFNLP) acts as an umbrella for two programs, targeting high school and middle school aged groups. Programs are provided in schools throughout Kern County at no cost. The KCFNLP collaborates with schools, districts and other agencies to provide programs to the widest range of youth possible. KCFNLP programs are open to all youth regardless of race, ethnicity, socio-economic status, religion or ability. The Friday Night Live Program Roadmap allows youth to create and implement their own environmental prevention project. High School (Friday Night Live) and Middle School (Club Live) chapters create their own project based on concerns in their community.

## KERN STOP METH NOW FUNDING

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