

Year 5 Workplan (i.e., 12-Month Action Plan)

DCF Goal 1: Establish and strengthen collaboration among community stakeholders and organizations to address youth substance use.

Objective 1: By September 1, 2026 to continue to recruit and engage Fairfield's health care providers in the work of the Fairfield CARES Community Coalition in order to strengthen representation of the health care sector on the Coalition.

Strategy 1: Provide Information

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Email or stop by at least 3 health care practices and get email of practice manager and/or discuss opportunity to present to staff.	Staff	March 31, 2026
Include health care new contacts on coalition email list & group email list.	Staff	March 31, 2026
Follow up to schedule meeting with health care practices to learn the needs of the community.	Staff	April 30, 2026

Strategy 2: Provide Support

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Inquire of ways the coalition can assist the practice with substance use prevention materials.	Staff	March 31, 2026
Provide requested prevention materials.	Staff	April 30, 2026

Objective 2: By September 29, 2026, conduct a minimum of three presentations in the Fairfield community to educate audiences on the Fairfield CARES Coalition's work and the status of youth substance use and mental health wellness.

Strategy 1: Provide Information

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Identify community groups and consider sector representation	Sector Reps & Staff	Jan 31, 2026
Connect with groups and schedule presentation	Sector Reps & Staff	March 31, 2026
Strategize and identify ways that groups can support or be engaged in Coalition work	Sector Reps & Staff	Apr 30, 2026
Present to community	Staff	Aug 31, 2026
Follow up with group representatives to encourage attendance at monthly Coalition meetings and/or seeking ways to engage in Coalition work.	Staff	Sept 1, 2026

Strategy 2: Enhance Skills

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?

Connect with community groups to inquire of Narcan or QPR trainings and to expand access to Narcan.	Staff	Aug 31, 2026
Schedule Narcan or at least 2 QPR trainings	Staff	Sept 29, 2026

DCF Goal 2: Reduce substance use and misuse among youth, and, over time, reduce substance use and misuse among adults by addressing the factors in a community that increases the risk of substance use and misuse and promoting the factors that minimize the risk of substance use.

Objective 3: By July 31, 2026, 50% of 7th-12th grade youth, an increase from 46% in 2023, will report that parents take steps to ensure that youth cannot access alcohol in their home as measured by the Fairfield Youth Survey.

Strategy 1: Provide Information

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Distribute “Liquor Lock” stickers, the Coalition’s Alcohol & Teens: Why 21? And Tough Topics: Talking Tips for Every Age brochure to parents at tabling events.	Staff & Coalition Volunteers	Oct 15, 2024; on-going
Provide tips on how to make alcohol inaccessible to teens via social media posts, and newsletters.	Media, Staff, PTAs	Dec 15, 2024; on-going
Utilize the “Loving Your Child Like Mine” campaign materials created in yr 3 of DFC grant and distribute throughout the community, e.g., libraries, doctors’ offices, etc., to remind parents not to make alcohol accessible to youth/ family rules are effective in preventing underage drinking.	Media, Coalition Volunteers, Staff	April 30, 2026
Inform/Remind parents of CT’s Social Host law via newsletter, social media, mailing, magnets	School, Media, Staff	May 31, 2026
Letter sent home to parents prior to prom or graduation reminding them of the social host law and the importance of monitoring youth parties to ensure no alcohol is present via prom information.	School, Staff	June 15, 2026

Strategy 2: Enhancing Skills

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Promote & provide online TIPS training to Fairfield restaurants to decrease the chance of selling alcohol to minors.	Local Gov Sector, Business, and Staff	April 30, 2026

Strategy 3: Change Consequences

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Conduct periodic party patrols especially during prom and graduation times.	Law Enforcement	May 15, 2026

Conduct compliance checks of area alcohol retailers	Law Enforcement	August 2026
---	-----------------	-------------

Strategy 4: Decrease Access/Increase Barriers

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Parents sign pledges at tabling events to not provide alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. Magnets/clings that say “Loving Your Kid Like Mine. Alcohol Not Available” distributed to parents who sign pledge.	Staff & Coalition Volunteers	Oct 15, 2024; on-going

Objective 4: By July 31, 2026, 80% of 7th-12th grade Fairfield youth, an increase from 76% in 2023, will report that their parents have rules to discourage underage drinking as measured by the Fairfield Youth Survey.

Strategy 1: Provide Information

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Develop social marketing tool to promote the message that “family rules make a difference to keeping kids’ alcohol and drug-free” and Social Host Laws	Parents, Media, Staff	Sept 29, 2026
Distribute social marketing tools throughout the community where parents congregate, e.g. library, doctors’ offices, salons, etc.	Coalition Volunteers, Staff	Sept 29, 2026
Provide data to parents via social media and newsletters showing the difference that parents make in teen use of alcohol when parent set rules about not drinking	Media & Staff	Sept 29, 2026
Collaborate with HS PTAs to organize Freshmen Forum(s) to educate parents on social host law, risks of underage drinking, and difference parents make when there are clear rules to discourage underage drinking.	School, Parents, Staff	Sept 29, 2026

Strategy 2: Provide Support

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Parents have access to information and receive resources that target substance, mental health, and general wellbeing.	Staff	Sept 29, 2026

Objective 5. By July 31, 2026, 70% of 7th-12th grade Fairfield youth, an increase from 68% in 2023, will perceive marijuana use as harmful as measured by the 2025 Fairfield Youth Survey.

Strategy 1: Provide Information

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Use the state campaign, “Be In The Know” materials and other DMHAS materials to target MS & HS youth.	Staff	Sept 29, 2026

Distribute cannabis prevention materials to MS and HS athletic directors/coaches to urge them to discuss the harms of marijuana with their teams	Staff, School	Sept 29, 2026
Distribute marijuana prevention materials to health care providers to urge them to discuss the harms of cannabis with youth during office visits.	Staff, Health Care	Sept 29, 2026
Include state campaign messaging in Coalition messaging, social media, & submit articles to PTA newsletters to encourage parents to talk to their teens about the harms of cannabis	Staff, Parents, Media	Sept 29, 2026
Distribute cannabis prevention materials at tabling events	Coalition Volunteers, Staff	Oct 31, 2024 & on-going
Schedule speaker with lived experience to present to middle school students	School, Staff, Health Care	Sept 29, 2026

Strategy 2: Provide Support

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Update and revise list of mental health & substance use counseling services available to teens.	Staff, Health Care, Other Substance Prevent	Feb 28, 2026
Post Mental Health & Substance Treatment services on Coalition website and make available during tabling events	Media, Staff	Oct 31, 2024 & on-going

Strategy 3 Decrease Access/Increase Barriers

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Collaborate with law enforcement/partner organizations to visit cannabis store located in neighboring town that is located near Fairfield town border and ensure they know how to check for a fake ID and fake medical marijuana cards.	Staff	Sept 25, 2026

Objective 6: By August 31, 2026, 32% of Fairfield 7th-12th grade youth, a decrease from 35% in 2023, will report that it is easy to access nicotine vape devices as measured by the 2025 Fairfield Youth Survey.

Strategy 1: Provide Information

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Develop vaping 101 education workshops for parents/youth to address health effects of vaping	Staff, Schools	Sept 29, 2026
Collaborate with community partners for vaping campaign/workshops to encourage teens to not provide nicotine vapes	Media, Youth, Staff	Sept 29, 2026
Conduct at least 2 vaping 101 education workshops for parents/youth via schools, community, etc.	Staff,	Sept 29, 2026

Strategy 2: Providing Support

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Support school sector on vaping cessation efforts via materials, supplies, or presentation.	School	Jan 31, 2026
Connect teens to community based or online vaping cessation resources	Youth, School, Health Care Org	Sept 29, 2026
Provide tips to help alleviate nicotine cravings and post in schools, & social media	Youth, School, Staff	Sept 29, 2026

Strategy 3: Enhancing Skills

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Provide advocacy support and resources to youth to feel confident about encouraging peers not to provide nicotine vapes to fellow teens	Staff	Sept 29, 2026

Strategy 4 Decrease Access/Increase Barriers

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Revisit vape stores to reinforce their obligation not to sell to youth	Youth, Staff	Jan 31, 2026
Encourage vape store managers to have employees complete online training	Youth, Staff	Jan 31, 2026

Strategy 4: Change the Consequences

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Coaches talk to teens each season on the consequences of vaping and drinking on team performance	School	Sept 30, 2025 & on-going
Coaches discipline players if found vaping or with vape paraphernalia.	School	Sept 30, 2025 & on-going

Strategy 5 Change Physical Design

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Provide updated decals/window clings/infographics to vape stores that state No Sales to Anyone Under Age 21	Youth, Staff	Mar 31, 2026

Strategy 6 Modify/Change Policy

Activity	Who is Responsible?	By When?
Continue to research the impact of store proximity to youth use of nicotine vapes	Youth, Staff	Jan 31, 2025 & ongoing
Develop rationale for town to limit the number of vapes stores to the current number.	Youth, Staff	Jan 31, 2025 & ongoing
Compose draft of Advocacy Statement	Youth, Staff	Feb 28, 2025 & ongoing
Meet with a Planning & Zoning Commission Member to get input and guidance	Youth, Staff	Mar 31, 2025 & ongoing
Revise Advocacy Statement as needed and follow guidance to present to the Fairfield Planning & Zoning commission	Youth, Staff	Mar 31, 2025 & ongoing

Reach out to vape stores, parents, health care providers, clergy & other sectors to support advocacy position	Youth, Staff	April 30, 2025 & ongoing
Present advocacy statement to Fairfield Planning & Zoning Commission.	Youth, Staff	May 31, 2025 & ongoing
Follow up with Planning & Zoning as necessary	Youth, Staff	June 30, 2025 & ongoing