

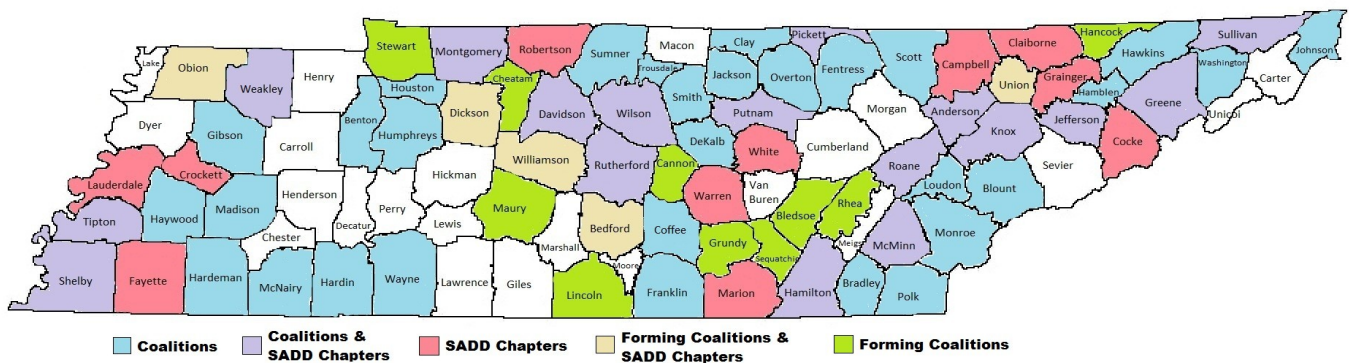
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions Across Tennessee (CADCAT)

Costs of Substance Abuse

Substance Abuse costs to society include lost productivity, health and criminal justice costs, and expenses related to drug demand and enforcement work. In 2001, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy released a report that assessed the economic impact of illicit drug use on the United States. The study found that the societal cost of drug abuse nationally in 1998 was \$143 billion. The report did not estimate the economic impact of alcohol abuse or other substances that can be used legally. Thus, the real cost to society of drug and alcohol abuse far exceeds \$143 billion.

Investing in prevention can reduce the burden our state must bear to treat the problems associated with substance abuse. It is estimated that for every dollar spent on drug abuse prevention, communities could save from \$4 to \$5 in costs for drug abuse treatment and counseling (Pentz, 1998).

Where Are Coalitions and SADD Chapters in Tennessee

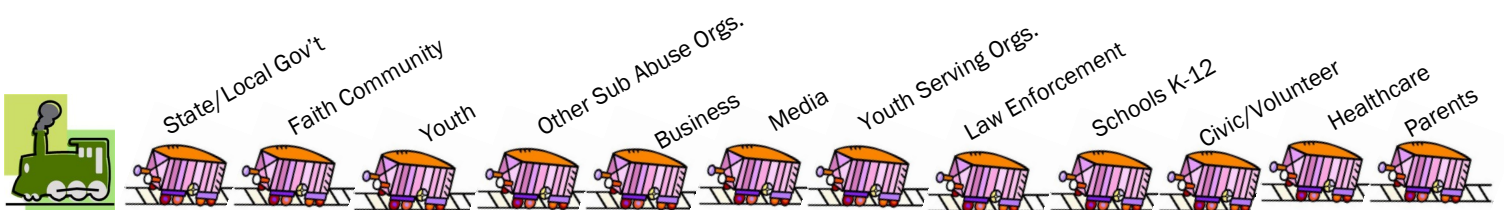


There are:

- 64 Anti-Drug Coalitions in Tennessee
- 14 New Coalitions have been formed in the past year

What is a Coalition?

A coalition is a formal arrangement for collaboration among groups or sectors of a community, in which each group retains its identity but all agree to work together toward the common goal of a safe, healthy and drug-free community. Coalitions should have deep connections to the local community and serve as catalysts for reducing local substance abuse rates. A such, community coalitions are not prevention programs or traditional human service organizations that provide direct services. Rather they are directed by local residents and sector representatives who have a genuine voice in determining the best strategies to address local problems.



Coalitions are cost effective because the changes they make affect more people.

Essential differences between coalitions and programs	
Coalitions	Programs
<p>Scale</p> <p>Coalitions measure success through community-level indicators.</p>	<p>Programs measure change in individuals who have been directly affected by their interventions)</p>
<p>Strategies</p> <p>Coalitions address multiple causes of the problems identified . They use multiple strategies in the different sectors or levels of those sectors (such as government, faith, parents, business, etc.)</p>	<p>Programs are usually focused on single strategies, such as parenting classes or mentoring.</p>
<p>Who Does the Work?</p> <p>Coalitions' activities are conducted by all coalition members (individuals and/or organizations). The staff plays a coordinating or supporting role.</p>	<p>Programs staff lead the process and are responsible for implementing interventions.</p>