Understanding the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)

The Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) is a five-step plan that a community group uses to create substance abuse prevention activities.

Step 1. ASSESSMENT – Discover what your community needs:
- WHAT is the greatest substance abuse problem, and WHAT do you know about WHY it is happening?
- WHERE is the problem taking place?
- WHAT group of people is the problem affecting the most?
- HOW can we deal with the problem and bring about a change?
- Is our community READY to do something about it?

Step 2. CAPACITY BUILDING – Find what you need to meet the substance abuse problem:
- Who are the people in your community whose help you need? Are they willing and capable of leading or carrying out the plan?
- Get everyone “on the same page” about why the problem needs attention and what to do about it.
- How much money is needed to carry out the plan, and where do we get the funds?
- What other resources will be needed, and how do we get them?

Step 3. PLANNING – Develop a detailed plan that will focus on:
- The best way(s) to tackle the problem that was discovered in Step 1 by working on a piece of the problem that you can change.
- The purpose of this project, and what you want the result to be.
- How the community will be changed by this project.

Step 4. IMPLEMENTATION – Carefully manage the plan created in Step 3:
- Do it.
- Track it.
- Record it.

Step 5. EVALUATION – Review information gathered in Step 4, and decide how well the plan worked:
- What has this plan shown us? What else do we need to know?
- Keep doing the activities that worked.
- Change or replace the activities that did not work.

THROUGHOUT ALL 5 STEPS, REMEMBER…
1. There are many ways to view the world; so make sure that the plan values, respects, and accepts the differences of all people in the community.
2. Plan for long-term maintenance of people and efforts.

This document is adapted from SAMHSA’s Strategic Prevention Framework that can be downloaded from: http://captus.samhsa.gov/prevention-practice стратегический план противодействия потреблению наркотиков в рамках коммунити.