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The 25th ECAD Mayor's Conference
Sverige mot narkotika

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International Standards on Prevention

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Promote an evidence based drug control response. Balanced approach between supply and demand reductions. International Standards on Drug Use and Prevention. They created a tool with two objectives: 1. Help policy members understand what prevention is and 2. What works and what doesn't when it comes to the science. Sustainable Development goals go to 2030. Health is a core component. Not just human rights but also components of growth and development. Primary objective is to help youth delay or prevent substance use. Health and safety of youth in general and more understanding in treatment. Prevention is looked at as a spectrum, part of a larger strategy of supply reduction, treatment and health centered approach. Prevention should focus on the preventing initial use of all substances not just ones under international control. It shouldn't focus on the drug but rather the behavior leading to drug use. Core component is the function of the brain in social development. Each development stage needs to be addressed to prevent drug use and dependence. Early and Middle Childhood is most challenging in the schools. In Adolescence they are assuming a new role in life; this is where the expression of substance abuse starts to show. There are micro and macro level influences in addition to personal characteristics linked to primary outcomes. 2013 Prevention Standards Summarized in one slide. Family- prenatal infancy. Interventions with pregnant women with substance abuse disorders, parenting skills not just anti-drug messaging. School- early childhood education. Personal and social skills, management skills, policies to help the child in school. Personal social skills and social influence education. Environmental programs not really addressing drugs. Community-workplace, health sector. Stage two- more than 100 experts and 47 countries worked on the new interventions. They include services for pregnant women in general regardless of their drug use. Addressing mental health disorders in middle adolescence. IN early adolescence they are building but still limited, looking at sports and other structured activities, computer based activities, and a focus on girls and women. Guidance from the World Health Organization includes family skills that focus on violence and substance abuse prevention, promoting healthy development of kids, monitoring behavior disorders.

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What can communities do? They are talking about the opioid issue because that is where the funding is but the overall messages looks at all drugs. To be successful you must mobilize the whole community. Reducing access and availability of all drugs, media campaigns, all sectors working together to reduce youth substance use. The best tool is the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF). The components include: needs assessment, capacity building across sectors, plan, implementation and evaluation. Providing information, building skills and social support focuses on the individual. Reducing barriers/access, changing consequences/incentives, altering physical design and changing policy and rules, is environmental focused.

Case Study- Curt County Drug Free Coalition in Ashland KY.

Provided information- media campaign on locking up your meds, doctor shopping and forget about sharing to address sharing meds. Social Norm's media campaign using billboards, newspaper, radio PSAs, push cards, movie theaters and local events. Building skills- training teachers, peers, parents, school staff, health professionals and youth by using a life skills curriculum in 3rd-9th grade and Generation Rx materials for 9th grade and community groups. Provide Support- law enforcement training through NADDI, funding for drug investigation overtime, funding for substance abuse counselors in schools, lifetime recovery support groups and health professional toolkits. Enhancing- medicine drop boxes, Safe Home Network, Increased DUI/Drug Suppression checks, promoted drug free workplace programs. Changing physical design- GIS mapping, Lock up Your meds. Modified policy- enacted a pill mill ordinance, a policy for veterinarians, and a drug free workplace policy. Outcomes: Went from 12% of youth abusing Rx drugs to less than 2%. There was also a reduction in alcohol, tobacco and marijuana use as well. Test scores rose and graduates went from 83.6% to 99.5% and college readiness went from 23% to 87%. **A comprehensive coalition approach remains the best local option for change.**