

## Analytic Framework: Community Interventions involving Coalitions or Partnerships to Prevent Substance Use among Youth

The analytic framework depicts postulated pathways through which community interventions involving coalitions or partnerships may reduce substance use among youth and improve other risk behavior and school-related outcomes. The diagram identifies the intervention as the combination of a coalition or partnership and two or more additional substance use prevention interventions with implementation support. The diagram identifies the community as the focus for intervention. Within the community, specific interventions may target adolescents ages 10-17 years, young adults ages 18-24 years, families of youth, schools, and retailers of alcohol, tobacco, or cannabis. Exposure to one or more interventions is postulated to influence two intermediate outcomes depicted in the diagram: reduced intentions to use substances by youth, and reduced access to substances among youth. Reductions in these intermediate outcomes are postulated to reduce the initiation of substance use among youth, as well as reduce the prevalence or frequency of substance use and the number of youths who subsequently develop substance use disorders.

Reductions in substance use outcomes among youth are postulated to improve one or more substance use-related outcomes among youth including school outcomes, mental health symptoms (such as anxiety or depression), sexual risk behaviors, antisocial behaviors (typically outcomes of delinquency or violence), and encounters with the criminal justice system.

The combination of reductions in substance use, substance use disorders, and substance use-related outcomes are postulated to reduce outcomes related to morbidity and mortality. The use of community interventions involving coalitions and partnerships for historically disadvantaged and lower income populations at high risk for substance use among youth is postulated to improve these outcomes and health equity.

Potential additional benefits of these interventions include reductions in substance use and related outcomes among adults in the community. Community interventions are not postulated to cause harms to participating or exposed youth or to the community.

Potential effect modifiers include characteristics of communities, youth characteristics, and differences in the interventions. Community characteristics include urban or rural setting, and the socioeconomic status. Characteristics of youth in the community include age and grade at intervention, gender, race, and ethnicity. Characteristics of the interventions include the substances targeted for interventions, and the prevention focus on demand, access, or both.