Drug Demand Reduction and Outreach

A team of military service members (Civil Operators) who work in the community supporting our state, counties, and cities to combat illicit drugs. We support, train, coach, and provide tools to community leaders and their respective organizations to enhance their capabilities to prevent substance abuse.
School Based Prevention Education Strengths

- Maximum saturation for Universal Prevention Strategies.
- Easily aligned with State and National Health Education Standards (AZ includes 11 of 12 primary mediator for teen substance abuse).
- When aligned there is an ability to incorporate teachers, counselors, and school resources officers.
School Based Prevention Education Challenges

- Disconnect between schools and support agencies.
- Evidence based programs are rarely aligned with state standards or specific subjects.
- Materials and training are expensive.
- Schools are overburdened and teachers do not feel adequately prepared to deliver prevention material.
WHO: Arizona Counterdrug Task Force (CDTF) Civil Operations

AFSC/MOS: 8F000, 3E771, 2T251

WHAT/WHEN: On Wednesdays from January 6th, 2021 through March 3rd, 2021 the THRIVE: Resiliency for Teens curriculum was delivered virtually to 6th-12th grade students at Imagine Prep in Surprise. The lessons were delivered during five weekly pre-existing 45 min. Advisory classes, grouped by grade level.

WHERE: (Virtual through Zoom)
Imagine Prep Surprise
14850 N 156th Ave.
Surprise, AZ 85379

HOW: Drug Demand Reduction Operations (DDRO) members certified as THRIVE Facilitators worked with the school counselor, teachers, and THRIVE certified coalition members to deliver 9 weekly lessons. Facilitation teams worked cooperatively to monitor the chat and facilitate student engagement.

Mission Impact – THRIVE was presented to an average of 301 students per week for a total of 2708 individual lessons. Imagine Prep would like the program to return next year, in person, and will be placing a thank you to the CDTF in the school yearbook. The virtual format allowed many newly certified DDRO personnel, and coalition members to gain teaching experience in a team setting. Real time observations by 2 THRIVE facilitator training courses, 4 coalition leaders, and 3 school administrators, led to 4 additional schools receiving the THRIVE curriculum, and potentially many more during the 2021/22 school year. Pre and post data was collected, and a community youth assessment was conducted in a zip code lacking Arizona Youth Survey data.
Arizona Counterdrug Task Force
Civil Operations
West Valley THRIVE Resiliency for Teens
Curriculum Facilitation
June 2, 3, 14-17, 21-24

UNCLASSIFIED/FOUO

WHO: Arizona Counterdrug Task Force (CDTF) Civil Operations, West Team
AFSC/MOS: 8F000, 3E371, 2A655, 3E331, 3F151

WHAT/WHEN: On Monday-Thursdays throughout June and facilitated THRIVE: Resiliency for Teens curriculum to grades 7-12th.
WHERE: Peoria Community Center, 8335 W. Jefferson Street, Peoria, AZ 85345

HOW: Drug Demand Reduction and Outreach (DDRO) Civil Operators and Peoria Primary Prevention Coalition (3PC) certified as THRIVE Facilitators worked with coalition members and community center staff at the Peoria Community center. 3PC is a newly formed coalition mentored by the Way Out West coalition. Facilitation teams worked cooperatively to deliver engaging lessons.

Mission Impact – In a voluntary summer program the Thrive curriculum was presented to approximately 20 students. Lessons were supplemented by 3PC and WOW team building exercises. Coordinating with the Peoria Community Center offered 3PC an opportunity positive engagement with the community. Each week also included a theme and meals served for the youth.
Arizona Counterdrug Task Force
Civil Operations
West Valley THRIVE Resiliency for Teens
Curriculum Facilitation
April 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 30

UNCLASSIFIED/FOUO

WHO: Arizona Counterdrug Task Force (CDTF) Civil Operations, West Team
AFSC/MOS: 8F000, 3E971, 3E371

WHAT/WHEN: On Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays throughout April the THRIVE: Resiliency for Teens curriculum was delivered weekly to 8th grade students at 3 Buckeye area schools.

WHERE:
Buckeye Elementary School, 211 South 7th Street, Buckeye, AZ 85326
Bales Elementary School, 25400 W Maricopa Rd., Buckeye, AZ 85326
Odyssey Preparatory Academy, 1495 S Verrado Way, Buckeye, AZ 85326

HOW: Drug Demand Reduction Operations (DDRO) Civil Operators and WOW Coalition Members certified as THRIVE Facilitators worked with the school counselor, and teachers. Facilitation teams worked cooperatively to engaging lessons.

Mission Impact – THRIVE was presented to 444 students per week. Two of the schools are Title 1 schools where students often have higher levels of risk factors for substance use.

The 3 schools are serving as a pilot program, supporting the Way Out West Coalition, in preparation to deliver the Thrive curriculum to 2,400 students in the Buckeye community next fall. The goal is to achieve complete saturation of resiliency training in the Buckeye community producing measurable improvements in substance misuse and community attitudes. Pre program data has been collected, and post program data will be collected at completion.
School Based Prevention Education

What We Can Do

• Work with coalitions to provide training and materials to schools.

• Align HIDTA, coalition, and other materials with state standards to be utilized in health and physical education classes.

• Support state efforts to provide mental health education and prevention education to all students (SB 1376, Title 15-712).

• Support and promote the distribution and collection of Arizona Youth Survey.
Drug Demand Reduction and Outreach

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