

FEBRUARY 2022

# NEWSLETTER



FOR MORE GO TO:  
[www.quincypartnership.org](http://www.quincypartnership.org)

## Current Project

### CADCA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP FORUM

This forum is an annual opportunity for thousands of prevention professionals, coalition members, and youth to come together. There are dozens of classes offered over the course of 4 days to bring attendees the most current information on drug trends, prevention strategies, and policies surrounding substance issues and prevention.

QPY's coalition coordinator, Megan Watson, was able to attend this year's Leadership Forum in National Harbor, MD. Megan describes the Leadership Forum as, "a great opportunity to learn from extremely experienced professionals in, and outside of, the classrooms." Some of the lessons learned that will be put to good use

within the coalition include focusing on the positive in the logic model, the concept of the data walk, using the arts to build resilience for youth, and using neuroscience when thinking about prevention.

National Leadership Forum is one of several conference learning opportunities every year that is offered to coalition members. It is a goal of QPY to get community members educated in prevention science. "These learning experiences are truly invaluable. I would definitely encourage anyone interested in coalition work to consider attending one of these events. I learned so much in the course of 4 days it's a challenge to even know where to start."



Every Day  
CADCA Trains:  
PREVENTION TODAY FOR  
A SAFER TOMORROW

32<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL LEADERSHIP  
**FORUM**  
January 31 – February 3, 2022  
Gaylord National | National Harbor, MD

## Sector Highlight

### Dayana Ruiz

I grew up and graduated in Quincy so this fulfilling work is personal. There were many directions my life could have taken but thanks to solid protective people, I found stability and hope. Having parents that were involved, faith that sustained me, teachers that noticed my potential, and programs that had me busy after school kept me from falling away from the goals I had for my future self – like one day having a back yard. I enjoy this work with the Quincy Partnership for Youth (and other coalitions) because we can involve

many people who come up with different solutions to the local concerns we may have. We all want to pay it forward, and the coalition is a welcoming space and platform for anyone who cares enough to do something about it while moving us from 'reacting' to preventing harm.



Dayana Ruiz

## Upcoming Events

**STRENGTHENING FAMILIES  
PROGRAM LAUNCH**  
*Feb. 11th*

**KEY LEADER EVENT**  
*March 24th*  
*5:30-8:00pm*

See our website at [www.quincypartnership.org](http://www.quincypartnership.org) for more details.



# FISCAL REPRESENTATIVE

Since coalitions are made up of volunteers representing a community, having a fiscal agent helps provide sustainability and opportunity for growth. The fiscal agent helps ensure the coalition handles their funding within the boundaries of their funding stream deliverables. The fiscal agent also employs the full time Coalition Coordinator who is dedicated to the community coalition’s vision and mission. Budgets and action plans are determined by the coalition while the fiscal agent monitors progress and provides oversight of the grant management. Renew serves as the fiscal agent for the Quincy Partnership for youth and regularly provides financial information/spending so the QPY Board and Coalition can make the most informed decisions for their community efforts.



## Prevention Topic

# ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGIES

QPY utilizes several types of strategies to address substance use prevention in the Quincy community. One such strategy is an environmental strategy. Environmental strategies involve policies, physical community changes, and addressing community attitudes and norms.

QPY can get involved in policy changes by promoting, reviewing, and modifying existing local policies, procedures, by-laws, rules, and practices. An example of this type of work that QPY has been involved in includes assisting Quincy School District with the development of their equity policy. We have also worked with Renew Behavioral Health and Wellness to establish policies that support the sustainability of our community programs by providing staff support. We have also supported and helped create a proposal for a modification to park rules that very specifically addresses substance use in local parks.

It is also our goal to address community attitudes and norms. According to the Healthy Youth Survey from 2018, 36% of local 10th graders believe that most adults in our community do not consider it wrong for youth to consume alcohol. In addition, 25% of those same 10th graders believe most adults

in our community do not consider it wrong for youth to use marijuana. In fact, 43% of those youth report parental attitudes that are tolerant of substance use.



QPY takes these statistics, which are higher than the state averages as well as other districts similar to our own, very seriously. In order to address these perceptions we provide education workshops and promote positive informational messages regarding substance use. We regularly promote messages encouraging parents to learn about the health effects of youth substance use and to talk to their kids about the risks and consequences.

Parents, caregivers, and trusted adults are the #1 influence in teens’ lives. If you need help on how to talk to your teen about substance use, message us on Facebook (Quincy Partnership) and we will get some resources to you.

## Upcoming Project

# STARTS WITH ONE

Next month, QPY will launch our Starts With One media campaign. This is our precursor to the Rx Take Back Day coming up in April. Starts With One is all about encouraging folks to have open dialogue about the dangers of opioids and what we can do to help minimize risks.

Many people do not realize how commonly drug addiction is spurred by prescription medication. It is a very easy trap to fall into. QPY would like to encourage all community members to make sure you are locking your medications up. If you need a locking medication bag, please reach out to us (quincypartnership@gmail.com) and we will get one to you. If you need some tips about how to talk to teens about opioid use, check out this website: <https://getthefactsrx.com/> There are many great resources provided there.

