



SEOW Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Time	Wednesday, May 25, 2022 9:00 am – 11:00 am
Location	Hybrid - Zoom Webinar, UH Manoa SSRI Conference Room
Address	2424 Maile Way, Saunders Hall Room 704F Honolulu, HI 96822
# Attendees	46

Meeting Minutes

9:00am-9:10am Welcome and Introductions

9:10am-9:20am Introductory remarks by John Valera, AICP, Acting Administrator from the State of Hawaii Department of Health Alcohol & Drug Abuse Division

- The ADAD's ATOD 2020 study is the revision of the 2006 study focusing on substance abuse. The target of these studies is the public and private charter school students in Hawaii.
- One of the main findings in these studies is the treatment needs by gender and grades. The studies also identified race/ethnicity in substance abuse.
- In 2019, the ADAD team met Dr. Onoye to discuss the 2020 ATOD study. It was before the COVID-19 pandemic. The target groups were decided as 8th, 10th, and 12th graders in the 2020 study.
- ADAD needed the 2020 study because of the necessity to update the research protocol and update the latest situations about substance abuse.

9:20am-9:45am Jane Onoye, Ph.D., Associate Professor from the University of Hawaii, Department of Psychiatry, John A. Burns

School of Medicine will present on the 2019-2020 Student Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs (ATOD) Survey

- The 2019-2020 Hawaii Student Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug use (ATOD) Survey was funded by ADAD. Regarding the timeline, administration of the survey was conducted until the COVID-19 shutdown.
- The sample is around 8000 students in Hawaii, public middle and high schools (8th, 10th, and 12th grades). The participation rate was quite good at 88.5%.
- Demographics, including gender, are indicated on the presentation slides. In the gender category, gender diversity was considered, and transgender could be one of the options. Native Hawaiian was the majority for race/ethnicity.
- Regarding the importance of culture, over 50% of students reported that maintaining cultural traditions was important and over 85% felt a strong ethnic belonging.
- More than 1 of 10 middle and high school students have a probable Substance Use Disorder (SUD). From 8th to 12th grade, screening for probable substance use disorder more than doubles. In addition, gender diverse students are more likely to have a substance use disorder.
- The survey also covers treatment needs, mental health, and attentional disorder in each county of the State of Hawaii. Over a third of students reported some form of mental health distress. With an increase in the severity of mental health distress there was an increase of the probable SUD and/or positive risk for SUD.
- Many students who are probable SUD and at positive risk of SUD did not receive any help even though they thought they should and thought that treatment did not apply to them.
- Alcohol (including binge drinking), tobacco, and marijuana are common substances used during the past 30 days. There is a drop from current to moderate-heavy use among alcohol (including binge drinking) and tobacco. However, vaping and marijuana is higher than tobacco and alcohol for moderate-heavy use.
- From 8th to 12th grade, there is an increase in substance use behavior (i.e. alcohol use is higher amongst 12th graders than 8th graders).

- By gender, the gender diverse group has a higher percentage substance use for all substance categories despite being a small percentage of the student population.
- By race/ethnicity, alcohol and substance use is higher among Hispanic/Latino, Native Hawaiian, other Pacific Islander, and those with 2 or more ethnicity/race.
- Alcohol and tobacco are common substances used in early initiation of substance use. Around the middle school age is where most of the early initiation of substance use begins to peak.
- Individuals who speak a primary household language other than english show slightly lower percentages of moderate to heavy use of alcohol, tobacco, vape, and marijuana. Those who have a strong sense of ethnic belonging show similar trends.
- This survey also asked how to get substances and where they use substances. In terms of getting substances, “someone gave to me” has the highest percentage. In terms of where they use substances, top locations were their house, someone else’s house, a party, public places, and school property.
- 85.7% of students reported receiving some type of prevention education primarily from their families (69.8%) or at school (67.8%). 84% reported having viewed or heard some kind of public awareness message. In addition, around 10% of students thought it was safe for a woman to drink alcohol regularly and including occasionally, during pregnancy.
- This survey identified protective factors and risk factors at the same time focusing on 1) community, 2) school, 3) peer, 4) family and 5) individual.
- Adversity, including peer and individual adversity, reduces resilience to substance abuse.
- Key takeaways
 - About 11% screen as probable SUD and 14% additional for positive risk
 - Treatment need more than doubles from middle to high school

- Gender diverse students are the smallest proportion but at the highest risk.
- Students primarily identifying as Pacific Islander, Native Hawaiian (including 2 or more ethnicities), Hispanic/Latino more like to have a probable SUD and also to use alcohol/vape/marijuana
- More than $\frac{1}{3}$ of students endorse mental health distress, which is associated with having a probable SUD
- Less than $\frac{1}{3}$ of students in the probable SUD range are receiving help (school or outside of school)
- Alcohol, vaping, and marijuana most used substances in the past month
 - Also substances that students more often try before age 13
- Students most commonly acquire alcohol, tobacco/vape, and marijuana from being given to them, giving money to buy for them, while at school, or taking (alcohol) from a family member
- Common places for student alcohol, tobacco/vape, and marijuana use are their or someone else's home, public place, and at school or when riding/driving in a vehicle (vape and marijuana)
- In addition, the large majority of students receive substance use prevention education and messaging from family, school, media, etc.
- Risk factors helped contribute to the domains related to adversity, but resilience factors like community validation of prosocial beliefs, school climate, relationships, self-efficacy & cultural connection are important for reducing likelihood of substance use
- Some examples of potential implications:
 - a. Vape use should be addressed more.
 - b. Monitoring for transgender/other gender minority students at higher risk.
 - c. Mental health screening and health integration in school or community to address co-occurring mental health issues and substance use.
 - d. Integrating culturally-based approaches

9:45am-9:55am

Presentation Q&A

- Is there any demographic information about active military family members' substance use?
 - There is no such information in our survey. There is a potential to report on that but an approval process is needed to obtain additional demographic information about respondents.
- What is the essential element for promoting collaborative research with multi-stakeholders?
 - Stakeholders should be involved as early as possible, and research processes should be transparent. In ADAD 2020 research, the research team got substantial interactions with the schools consistently. These efforts are the best example of our collaboration.
- Did you have any surprising results which were not expected in advance? In addition, could you share some more findings/thoughts relating to ACEs and substance abuse?
 - The research team did not have any expectations in advance. In terms of ACEs, the research team talked about ACEs questions, but the survey covered all ACEs questions. This point would be a future possibility.
- Was this an online survey?
 - It was designed online initially, but the survey was eventually conducted using paper and pencil because of the various environmental issues around schools.
- It was interesting how many children reported using alcohol in their homes rather than in other locations. Do you think it has some influence on self-report biases?
 - It has some possible self-report biases (children choose "their house" instead of other locations in the questionnaire) because of access issues to substances. Access to substances has a connection with other people.

9:55am-10:05am

Break

10:05am-10:15am Introductory remarks by Tehani Diaz, MPA, Strategic Prevention Framework - Partnerships For Success Coordinator from the State of Hawaii Department of Health Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division

- Under the PFS prevention system, there is the EPI Team, SPF Eval team, and ADAD.
 - The EPI team (SEOW, SPAW, SCPW) provides data to support the PFS recipients and PFS grant coordinator.
 - SPF Eval team collects data providers and provide T/TA to providers.
 - ADAD has contracts with 4 counties that do coalition work.
- SPF is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to reduce substance abuse. Specifically for Hawaii SPF, preventing and reducing underage drinking (9 – 20 years old) are the main focuses.
- SPF has the following components: 1) assessment, 2) capacity, 3) planning, 4) implementation, 5) evaluation and 6) sustainability and cultural competence.
- Sustainability does not just mean funding, but building capacity and training staff to provide appropriate programs. Also, cultural competence is always important in such a diverse place like Hawaii.

10:15am-10:40am Laura Johnston and Cielo Subia, Policy Research Associates from the University of Hawaii at Manoa will present on the State Community Partnership Workgroup Orientation

- SCPW aims to support academic and community partnerships focusing on alcohol use among high-risk populations such as homeless, LGBTQ, Native Hawaiian and rural as well as support the goals of the PFS.
- In the SCPW framework, there are three different projects (innovative data sources, community-level characteristics, and Adverse Childhood Experiences) are in the works after the alcohol tax policy study.
- As for Academic and Community partnerships, SCPW is flexible in working with various organizations to deal with the problems using data analysis and evaluation procedures regarding substance use.

10:40am-10:50am Presentation Q&A

- What are the strengths of SPF in Hawaii relating to cultural diversity and geographical characteristics?
 - Regarding evidence-based programs, currently, they are using curricula developed on the continent. Hence, ADAD is trying to develop homegrown evidence-based programs in the coming years.

10:50am-11:00am Closing: The next SEOW Quarterly Meeting will be held on August 31, 2022 from 9:00am-11:00am via Zoom