



2023.2024 Annual Report



Fayette County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc. (FCDAC) is a non-profit organization governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Since 1974, FCDAC has served as the Single County Authority (SCA) for Fayette County, as designated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Responsible for the administration and management of publicly funded substance use disorder and gambling services within the county.



Administration



DUI



Fiscal



**Case
Management**



Prevention



Treatment

The foundation for our approach to prevention, intervention, and treatment services is based on consideration for the dignity of the people we serve and the belief that a substance use disorder is a treatable disease. Over the past several years, FCDAC's role and mission have expanded to include other disorders that, if left untreated, would have devastating outcomes like those of substance use disorder.

The Prevention Unit provides prevention programs that are designed to reduce those factors that place our youth at risk for alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, and that actively engage the youth, family, and community members in a variety of prevention activities in both school and community settings. Additionally, the Prevention Unit works with each of the public-school districts within Fayette County to provide intervention services for each school's Student Assistance Program. The Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Unit offers services for those offenders who have been arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or other (prescription, over the counter, or illegal) substances that caused an impairment to their driving ability.

The Case Management Unit at FCDAC works to help ensure access to treatment, support services and promote the recovery process. Case Management is the point of entry into all substance use disorder services and is driven by client need. The aim is to provide the least restrictive level of care necessary so that the client's life is disrupted as little as possible. Any person needing services may contact FCDAC for an assessment and an individual referral to meet his/her needs for service. FCDAC will work with each person to access the most appropriate and available funding source to meet their treatment needs. FCDAC serves all clients regardless of their ability to pay. Our case management staff that includes both our case managers and certified recovery specialist (CRS) continue to provide services at the Fayette County Jail. Staff provide level of care assessments and case coordination services. Case managers make referrals and provide placements for those individuals that need services. Our CRS staff have been able to provide both individual and group support services at the Fayette County Jail.

FCDAC is a fully licensed provider of drug-free outpatient and medication assisted outpatient treatment services. These services are geared to those persons who are experiencing problems with gambling or substance use disorder; for those who have a relationship with someone who is using substances; and for children and adolescents who are children of someone with a substance use disorder. Each person who accesses treatment services has active input into developing their own comprehensive and custom-tailored individual treatment plan. This plan is used to guide each person through their outpatient treatment and aftercare process. The treatment unit is fully staffed and can accept most insurances for payment of services. Even though a sliding scale for payment is available, FCDAC strives to eliminate as many barriers as possible for a person to access treatment. Our treatment specialist assigned to the Fayette County Jail has been able to provide individual counseling sessions to inmates that are appropriate for outpatient services. The services provided at the Fayette County Jail are funded by the Fayette County Commissioner's through the Opioid Settlement Fund.



Administration

During the fiscal year, FCDAC's Administrative Unit provided administration and oversight of all services provided onsite. As funding sources have become more restrictive, FCDAC's Administration has ensured that funds were maximized so that quality substance use prevention, intervention, and treatment services were provided to the citizens of Fayette County.

As with many other counties within the Commonwealth, Fayette County has not been immune to the insurgence of opiate and prescription drug abuse. It is unprecedented in the number of lives that have been lost and families destroyed due to the opioid/heroin epidemic, as well as other substances. FCDAC has been designated as the Coordinating Entity for Fayette County to distribute Narcan to any person within the County that would request it to assist with an opioid overdose. FCDAC administration and staff have attended several health fairs, community events, as well as the Uniontown and Connellsville Halloween Parades to provide Narcan training and medication.

We have also distributed Detera drug disposal pouches and fentanyl and xylazine testing strips.





In August 2023, we hosted our 2nd annual International Overdose Awareness Day event at Yough River Park in Connellsville, PA. This provided us with the opportunity to remember those that lost their lives to an overdose. We had several speakers that spoke about their substance use disorder, overdose, and how to access services. Agency staff distributed Narcan and Detera disposal bags at the event.

In September 2023, we held our 2nd annual Recovery Walk. It was well attended. This was a drug/alcohol free event. We partnered with several providers in the county to hand out information about their services. We distributed Narcan and Detera disposal bags. We had several speakers that shared their story of recovery and hope. The walk was held in honor of Buzzy Duritza, who was a previous FCDAC Board member and a champion for recovery.



In October 2023, we had a float in the Connellsville and Uniontown Halloween parades. Our theme was “Being Drug Free Is Sweeter Than Candy” in honor of the Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory movie. Staff distributed candy. We had tables at both events, where staff were able to provide information about services and distribute Narcan and Detera.

In November 2023, Tony Hoffman, a former pro BMX racer and Rio Olympic Coach, spoke with students at Frazier School District about his journey of substance use disorder and recovery. Tony also spoke at Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus to members of the Fayette County community.

Throughout the year, FCDAC commercials and messaging were featured throughout Fayette County. These messages promoted our organization's services as well as the vital role Narcan plays in preventing opioid overdose deaths. Messaging appeared on digital ads, TV commercials, newspaper ads, and billboards.

275,000+

impressions of the FCDAC commercial aired in Fayette County during the 23/24 Fiscal Year.



"How can I support local Narcan education?"
Start with the facts.

For Narcan, Contact: 724.438.3576 • fcdaa.org



Keeping our community safe & healthy

- Prevention • DUI Services
- Outpatient Services
- Case Management
- LETI Services

Learn More



A note from The Executive Director

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Fayette County Drug and Alcohol Commission's Board of Directors for their ongoing support and dedication during the year. They, along with the entire team at FCDAC, are always impressive in their commitment to make a difference to people, families, and communities that are affected by substance use disorder.



Melissa Ferris



mferris@fcdaa.org



724-438-3576, 149



Fiscal

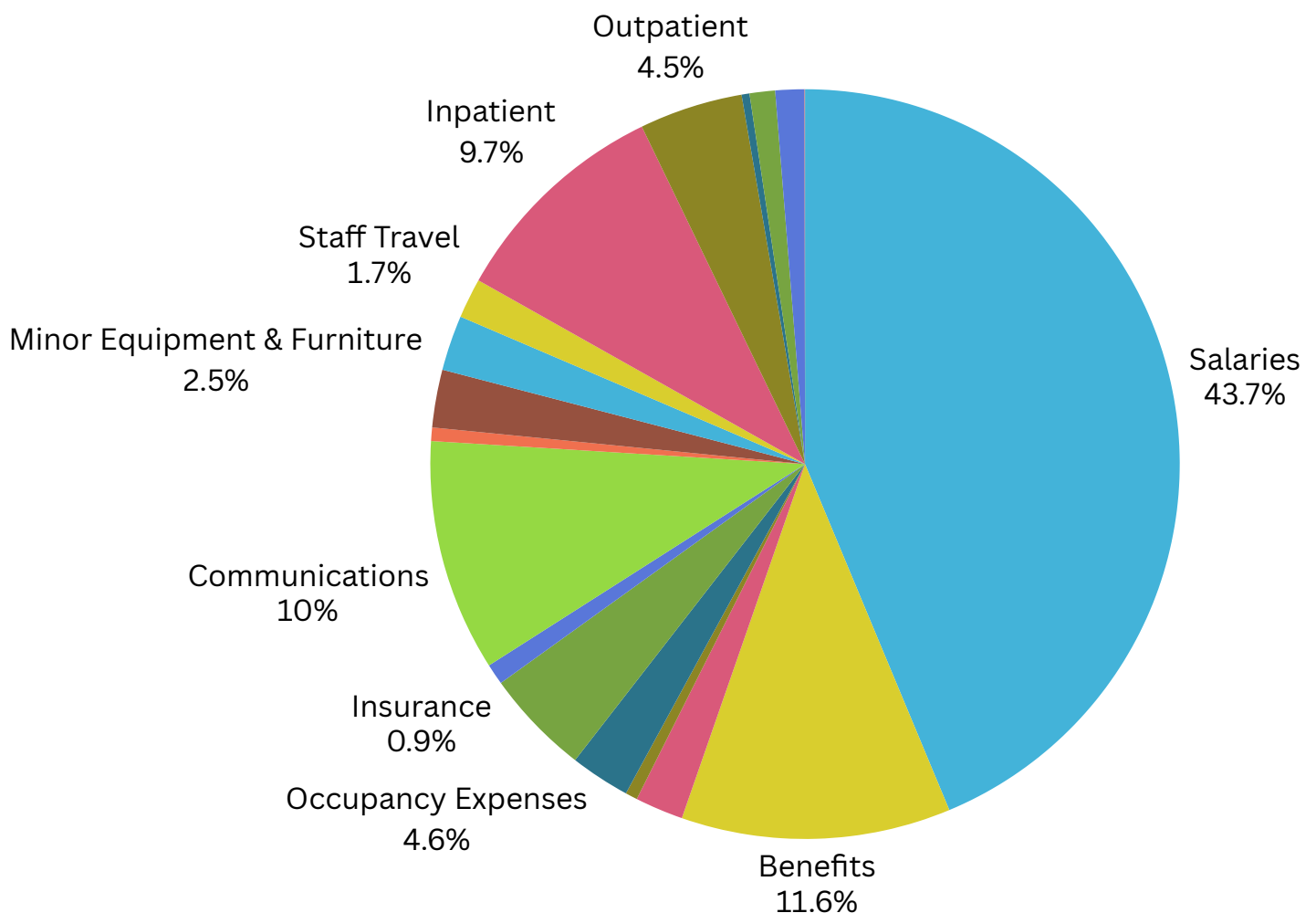
Expense Report

Salaries	\$1,737,770
Benefits	\$462,373
Staff Development	\$82,899
Meeting and Conference Expenses	\$20,606
Consultant	\$102,576
Occupancy Expenses	\$181,287

Insurance	\$35,918
Outpatient	\$177,599
Client Services	\$13,644
Equipment Maintenance	\$43,723
Other	\$49,687
Shelter	\$600

Communications	\$398,054
Office Supplies	\$23,182
Minor Equipment & Furniture	\$99,196
Program Supplies	\$94,610
Staff Travel	\$68,582
Inpatient	\$384,471

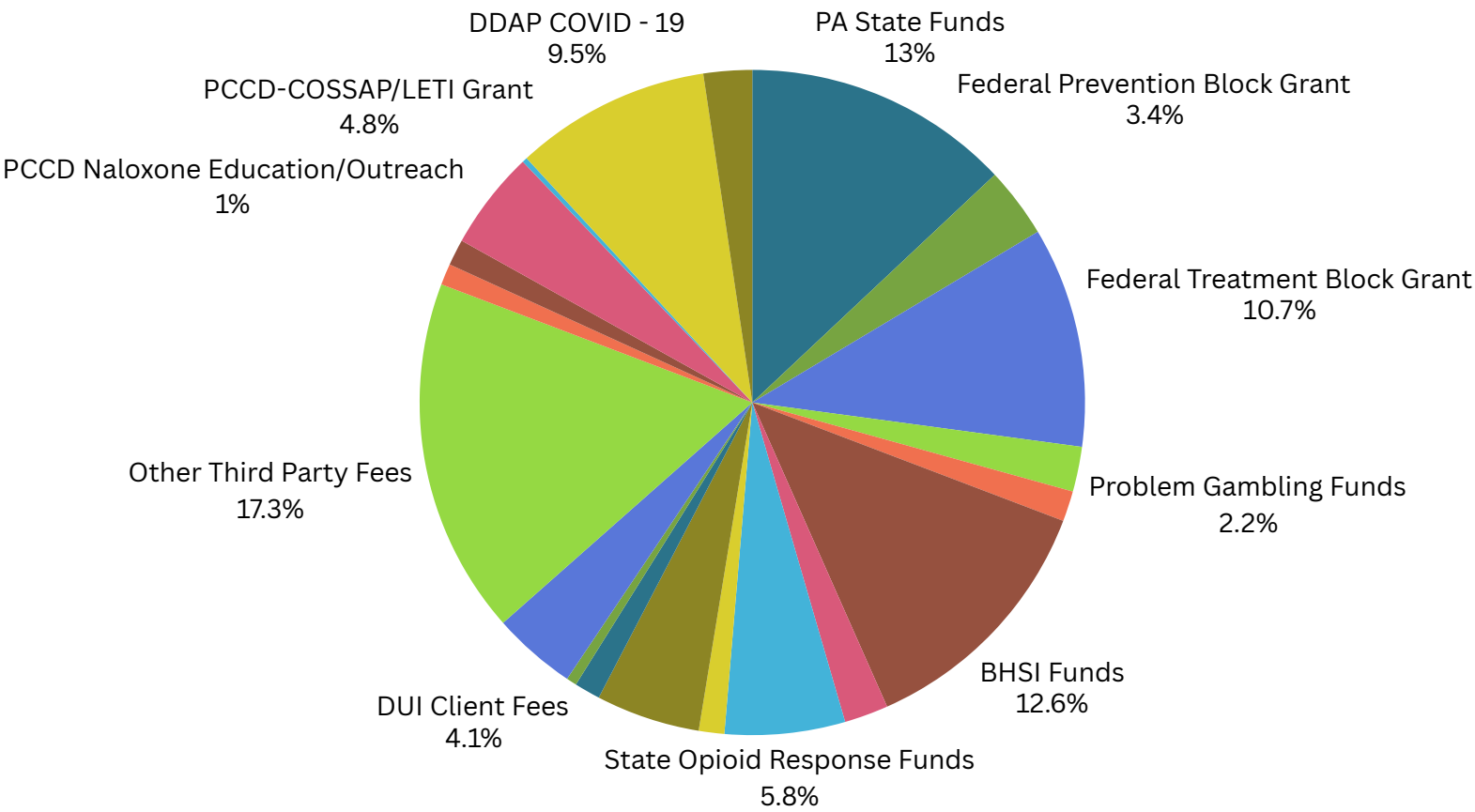
Total \$3,976,777



Revenue Sources

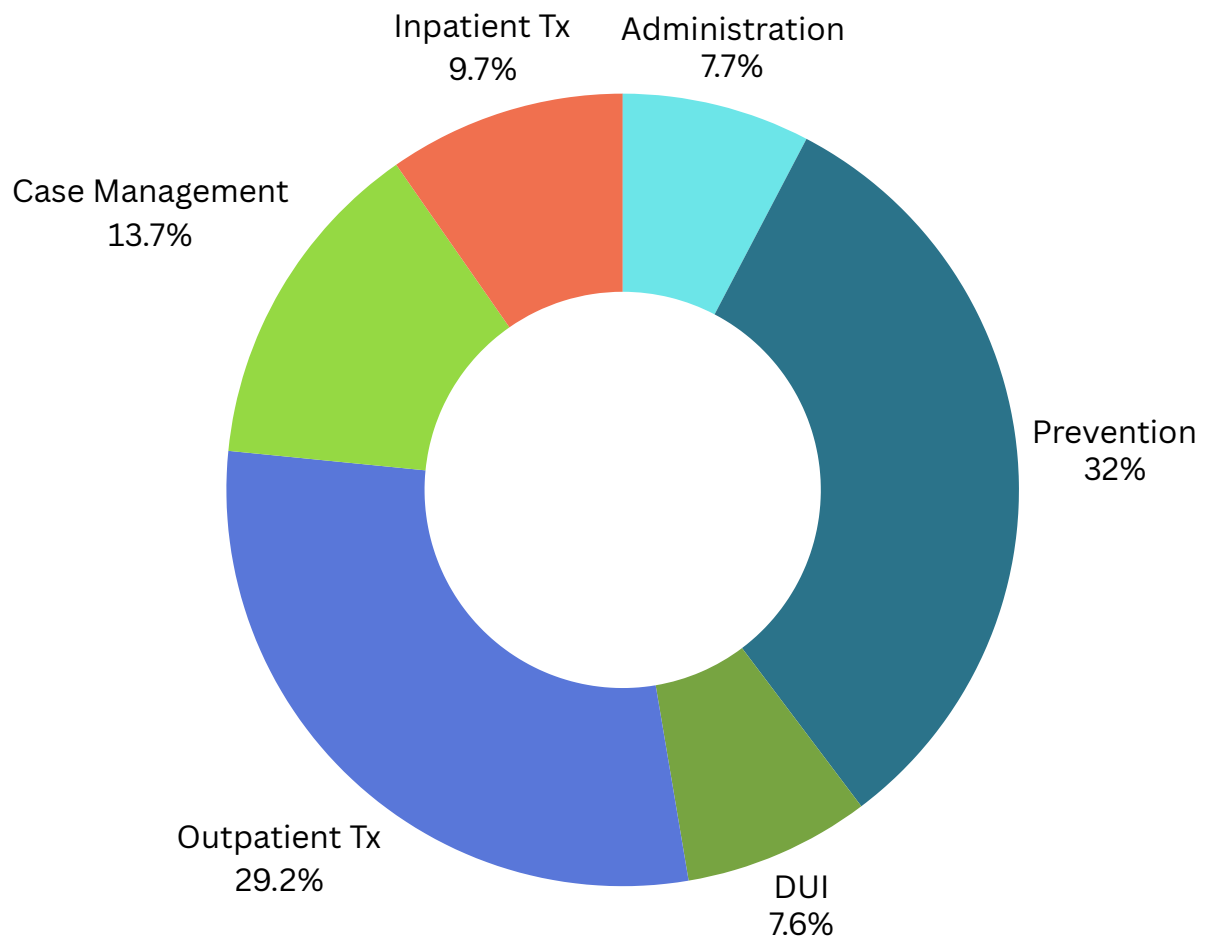
PA State Funds	\$523,768	Opioid Settlement Funding (Non-DDAP)	\$49,989	PCCD Naloxone Education/Outreach Grant	\$41,570
Federal Prevention Block Grant	\$137,934	PCCD-Opioid Misuse Prevention Program Grant	\$203,762	PCCD-Restrictive Intermediate Punishment Grant	\$51,297
Federal Treatment Block Grant	\$431,676	Community Services-SAP	\$50,803	PCCD-COSSAP/LETI Grant	\$193,318
Problem Gambling Funds	\$87,951	Human Service Development Fund	20,180	PCCD-Treatment Services in County Jail	\$9,928
State Gaming Funds	\$59,532	DUI Client Fees	\$164,351	DDAP COVID - 19	\$383,264
BHSI Funds	\$506,517	Other Third Party Fees	\$697,438	DDAP ARP Grant	\$95,060
Act 152 Funds	\$86,175				
State Opioid Response Funds	\$253,457				

Total \$4,047,970



Expenditure by Categories

Administration	\$305,343
Prevention	\$1,274,013
DUI	\$303,196
Outpatient Treatment	\$1,162,548
Case Management	\$546,606
Inpatient Treatment	\$384,471
Shelter	\$600





Prevention Services

The FCDAC Prevention Unit is responsible for planning, delivering, and coordinating alcohol, tobacco, other drug, and gambling (ATOD&G) prevention services for Fayette County. The field of ATOD&G prevention focuses on employing different strategies to affect the use, misuse, and abuse of ATOD as well as preventing problem gambling. The methods Prevention Specialists use to tackle this task are many, including: educating and providing information, bringing awareness to ATOD&G issues, providing ideas on ways the community can support prevention efforts, and offering insight on ways ATOD use, misuse, and abuse are inadvertently encouraged by social norms as well as community practices. Services delivered by the Prevention Unit attempt to follow the principals of effective prevention as compiled by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) from current research.

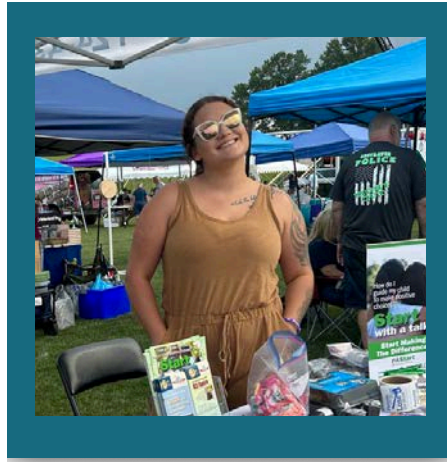
Programming is done throughout Fayette County. These programs are implemented in schools, communities, and with families. The Prevention Unit strives to use either evidence-based or evidence-informed curriculum. This means that research has shown that the programs used have outcomes in reducing youth problem behaviors, including but not limited to substance use.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

There are opportunities throughout the fiscal year for Prevention Unit Staff to attend various conferences and trainings to increase their knowledge of general prevention and area specific prevention. In the Fiscal Year 23/24, some of the professional development opportunities that were taken advantage of included the National Conference on Problem Gambling, PA SAP Conference, CADCA Conference, and CPA Conference.



Events in the Community



1719

DeTerra pouches distributed. These are used for deactivating unused or expired medications.

During the last fiscal year, Prevention Unit Staff attended many community events serving as the outreach for FCDAC. Some of the events attended included Community Resources and Utilities Fair (Brownsville), Hoops & Scoops (Uniontown City), Trunk or Treats (Smithfield, Uniontown, Connellsville, and Lemont Furnace), Christmas in the Park (Connellsville), Support Sessions for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (Uniontown), the Veterans Fair (Uniontown), Summer Kickoff Event (Connellsville), and Pride in the Park (Connellsville).



During these events Prevention Unit Staff disseminated units of DeTerra, the drug deactivation pouch. They also disseminated information on how to talk to your child, steps to quit smoking, information about evidence-based programs, and more. There were a total of 3,632 items distributed in this way.

PROBLEM GAMBLING PREVENTION

In 2023, FCDAC conducted an assessment of needs for problem gambling behaviors and found that there is a misconception among adults who think that gambling is not an issue for youth. According to the 2023 Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS), 9.4% of youth have gambled in the past 30 days. 8th grade students came in as the highest percentage at 12.2%.

497

high school students received the Stacked Deck curriculum.



During the fiscal year 23-24, the Prevention Unit staff delivered the high school curriculum Stacked Deck to 497 9th graders. They also delivered the Wanna Bet curriculum plus the add on lessons to 48 middle school students.

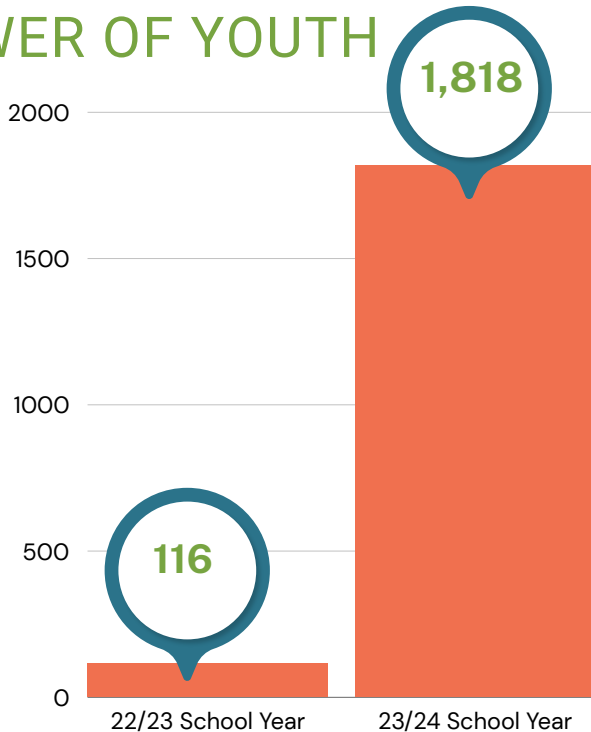
Programs in School



1877

Students in Fayette County received Botvin LifeSkills Training.

POWER OF YOUTH



Students in Fayette County who received Power of Youth in Fayette County by year

BOTVIN LIFESKILLS TRAINING

Botvin LifeSkills Training (LST) is a research-validated substance abuse prevention program proven to reduce the risks of alcohol, tobacco, drug abuse, and violence by targeting the major social and psychological factors that promote the initiation of substance use and other risky behaviors. This comprehensive and exciting program provides adolescents and young teens with the confidence and skills necessary to successfully handle challenging situations.

POSITIVE ACTION

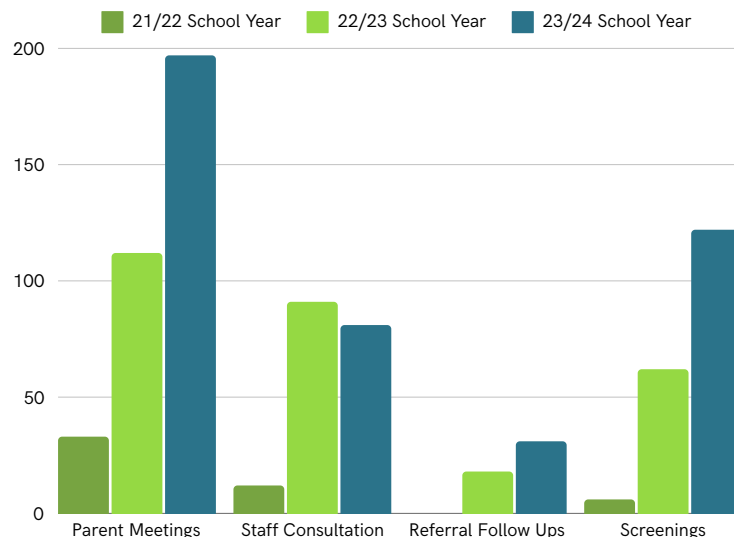
The Communities that Care of Fayette County (CTC) under the Prevention Unit, identified that depressive symptoms were high among youth in Fayette County. To impact this risk factor, the coalition began implementing the Positive Action curriculum, which has outcomes not only on depressive symptoms but tobacco and alcohol use, increased academic scores, obesity, and more.

Connellsville Area School District implemented a full-scale roll out of the Positive Action Program in the 4th grade. Every student received the curriculum in the 23/24 school year.

All curriculum was supplied to classes through FCDAC Prevention Unit and in order to secure sustainability of the program, the Prevention Supervisor was trained to train facilitators of the program. This means that FCDAC will not have to pay for trainings, a cost of \$6,000 per training.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SAP)

In the 23-24 School Year, the Prevention Unit added one additional SAP Liaison to the staff growing the staff to support that program directly to three. Even though the output for this program had grown from the 21-22 school year to the 22-23 school year due to staffing changes, the amount of students grew even more with the additional SAP Liaison.



701

students were referred to the Student Assistance Program in the 23/24 School Year

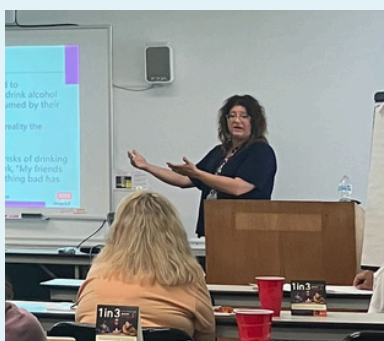


61%

of the 201 students who were referred to be screened for behavioral health concerns, were screened for a total of 122 screening.

VAPING PREVENTION & INTERVENTION

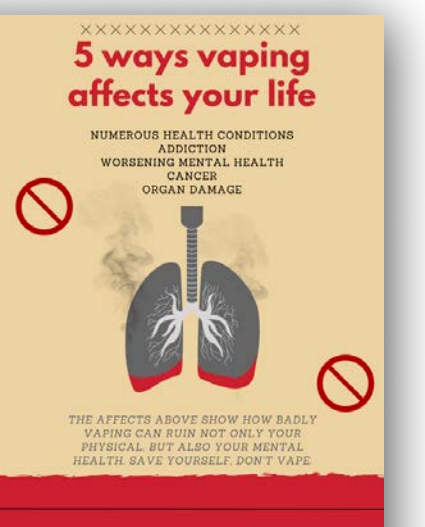
According to the most recent data from the PAYS, 17% of Fayette County youth have vaped in their lifetime. When asked what product students are vaping, nicotine use among vapers has increased steadily over the last three cycles of PAYS. With the increased use of vaping among our Fayette County youth, the Prevention Unit has increased the implementation of both vaping intervention programs and vaping prevention programs.



56

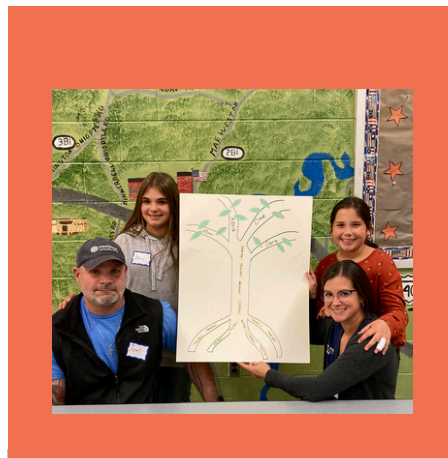
Students participated in the INDEPTH Program.

CATCH My Breath is an evidence-informed program implemented across the US. In Fayette County, the Prevention Unit has held CATCH My Breath in 4 out of 6 school districts. In those 4 school districts, 1,762 students received this curriculum. As part of the 8th grade curriculum, students create a vaping prevention public service announcement. This allows students to not only utilize the facts they have learned about vaping, but to highlight that information to their peers.



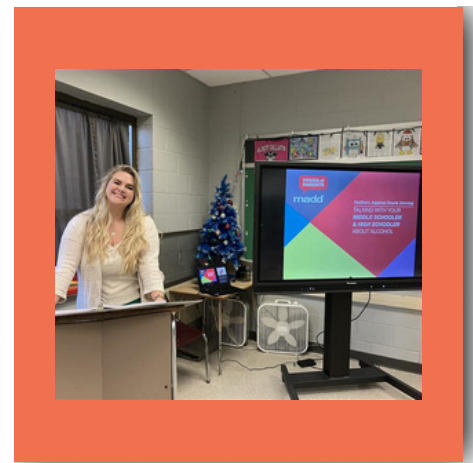
INDEPTH is a program that the Prevention Unit uses in schools as an alternative to suspension or citation. Any youth who violate the vaping policy must complete the four sessions of the INDEPTH program in order to receive certification.

In Fayette County, three school districts implemented this program. The school districts that participated were Brownsville Area School District, Connellsville Area School District, and Laurel Highlands School District. This program will be expanded in fiscal year 24-25.



The Prevention Unit holds family programs for parents and youth. One program called Strengthening Families Program 10-14 (SFP 10-14) was implemented in Connellsville School District four times, thanks to the Opioid Misuse Prevention Project (OMPP) happening there, known locally as Effective Prevention in Connellsville Communities (EPICC). SFP 10-14 was also held in Uniontown School District at AJ McMullen Middle School and in the Laurel Highlands School District at St. Peter's Lutheran Church. St. Peter's Lutheran Church is centrally located for students in Laurel Highlands, Uniontown, and Albert Gallatin School Districts.

In order to ensure that the program could be sustained after the OMPP funding, the Prevention Program Manager took steps to have the Prevention Unit Supervisor trained to train new facilitators in SFP 10-14. In the 23-24 fiscal year, 18 new facilitators were trained in program.



In addition to Power of Youth being implemented in Fayette County schools, the Prevention Unit also delivers Power of Parents to caregivers of youth in middle and high school. Mother's Against Drunk Driving (MADD) developed this program. This workshop is conducted in 30 minutes and fits well with the Prevention Unit's Teen Bedroom. During the Power of Parents and the Teen Bedroom presentations, parents receive information on how to have a conversation with their youth about alcohol and cannabis use.



YOUTH SIGN ME UP

The Communities that Care Coalition of Fayette County has done work in our communities for a decade through funding from the Prevention Unit. In this work, the coalition has identified that youth are not connected to their communities. According to the 2023 PAYS data, only 37% of youth feel noticed by people in their community when they do something good. When considering this data point, the coalition looked at the fact that there are a lot of opportunities for youth to get involved in prosocial activities. The coalition with direction from the FCDAC Prevention Program Manager, looked into ways to highlight this fact to youth and families in Fayette County. From that came the Youth Sign Me Up. This event was held in April of 2024 and was organized by our CTC mobilizer with support from the coalition's board. The Youth Sign Me Up included many youth serving groups including Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Laurel Region, Scouts of America, Girl Scouts, 4-H, and many others including sports, religious, and music organizations that offer programs for youth. At the event 150+ youth were able visit 25 different organizations that offer youth programs. Also at the event, students could enter to win prizes and scholarships to join a program.

RESPONSIBLE ALCOHOL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM SERVER/SELLER TRAINING

In 2023, the Prevention Supervisor was trained to facilitate the RAMP Server/Seller training. This became a priority for the Prevention Unit when the most recent needs assessment had shown that underage drinking was an issue among our youth. The RAMP Server/Seller training is required for anyone hired on or after 8/8/16 who serve alcohol in an establishment in Pennsylvania.

97

individuals participated in the RAMP Server/Seller training.



This fiscal year, six RAMP Server/Seller trainings were held and 97 individuals were trained.

PROJECT STICKER SHOCK

Another initiative aimed at reducing underage drinking is Project Sticker Shock. According to the 2023 PAYS, out of the youth in Fayette County who have drank alcohol in their lifetime, 29.7% say they had been given it from their parents/caregivers. This number has steadily increased over the last two cycles of PAYS. In 2019, it was 24.5% and in 2021, it was 28.5% of youth in Fayette County who said that they had been given alcohol from their parents.

The Project Sticker Shock activity partners youth and adults in their community to go to beer distributors and affix stickers to cases of beer and alcohol that has a message on the dangers of providing alcohol to minors. In May of 2024, the Prevention Staff organized youth, law enforcement, and unit staff to visit three alcohol serving stores in three different school districts. The group visited one site in Masontown, one site in Uniontown, and one site in Lemont Furnace.



RED RIBBON WEEK

The Prevention Unit has been the driving force to the observation of Red Ribbon Week in Fayette County. In the Fiscal Year 23-24, the Prevention Unit continued with its decade's long initiative of Free With Ribbon. For this initiative, the Prevention Unit staff contact Fayette County businesses to encourage them to give away a free or discounted item to youth who enter their business wearing a Red Ribbon.



FCDAC celebrated the week by encouraging staff to wear special items to celebrate a drug free lifestyle.

HAND OVER THE REINS

From the Wednesday before Thanksgiving to New Year's Day, the Prevention Unit observes the Hand Over the Reins Campaign. This campaign encourages individuals to use a designated driver during the holiday season and all year round. Many businesses in Fayette County partner with our organization to observe this campaign. Bars and restaurants display the Hand Over the Reins messaging on their tables and in their windows. Fayette County fire departments and social clubs display the information as they host Holiday parties.

The Prevention Unit partners with establishments to offer mocktails for guests or alcohol free drinks at a discounted price or free if they are the designated driver.

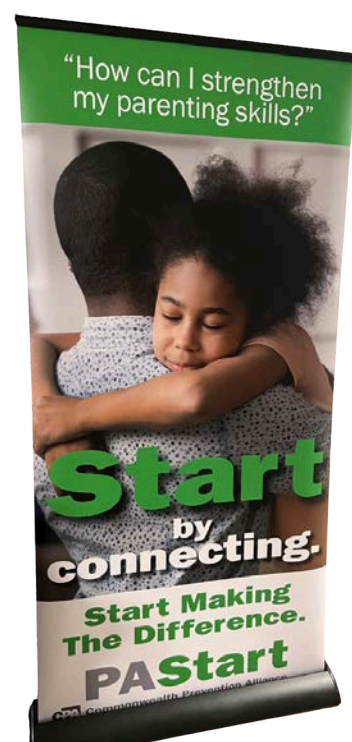
Finally, the Hand Over the Reins message can be seen in digital marketing. The Prevention Unit has utilized a marketing businesses to get the message out as web and video advertisements.

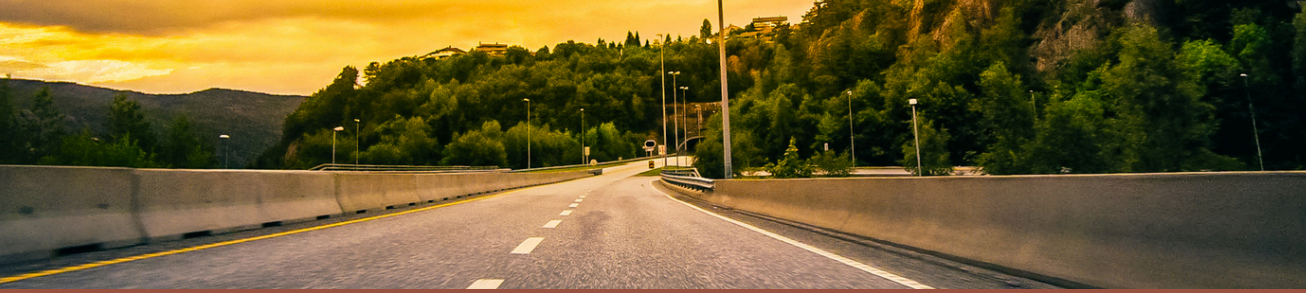
PA START & PA STOP

During the last fiscal year, the Prevention Unit and Effective Prevention in Connellsville Communities, a project within the unit, utilized the PA Start and PA Stop campaigns, created by the Commonwealth Prevention Alliance.

The PA Start Campaign encourages parents and caregivers to discuss with their youth issues that might impact them. There are messages related to LGBTQIA issues, Racial Equity issues, drug use, mental health concerns, and more. The Prevention Unit has distributed these messages in web-based media, television ads, and newspaper ads.

The PA Stop Campaign uses a variety of messages to reduce stigma of drug use, prevent prescription medication sharing and misuse, and safe storage of prescription medication. These messages were disseminated through social media, digital ads, and billboards.





DUI Services

For Fiscal Year 2023-24, the DUI Unit instructed 12 - AM/morning Alcohol Highway Safety School sessions. There were six conducted virtually by Zoom, and six sessions completed in person. The DUI Unit further conducted 9 - PM/evening sessions of the 12 ½ hour curriculum. We facilitated 2 sessions virtually by Zoom, and seven were completed in person.

There were also a total of four - Multiple Offender sessions, two were completed virtually by ZOOM and two were in person. There were also four Intervention Group sessions instructed during the Fiscal Year 23-24. These were completed virtually by Zoom. For this group 26 participants were enrolled, 26 attended, and 26 completed the program for a 100% completion rate. The successful completion rate of participants that are required to make full payment upon scheduling, and attend all sessions involved in these educational programs has increased steadily. The AM (9am-11:30am) DUI School session has a 97% completion/success rate. These individuals have also become more successful in completion of their ACT 122 Treatment that is a requirement from PennDot prior to the end of their last session of the DUI School. These educational pieces are facilitated with two full-time staff members.



246

were registered for AM AHSS Classes. 221 participants attended, with a 95% completion rate.



194

were registered for PM AHSS Classes. 163 participants attended, with an 88% completion rate.

79

were registered for the Multiple Offender Program (MOP) Classes. 70 participants attended, with a 94% completion rate.



650

Court-Reported Network Evaluations were conducted during this fiscal year.

27

Hair-drug screens were conducted in the 23-24 Fiscal Year.

During Fiscal year 2023-24 the DUI Unit completed 650 CRN evaluations. The show rate was 58% during this period.

For the CRN's that were completed in FY 23-24, there were 52 Fayette County DUI defendants that reported possessing a Medical Marijuana Card issued by the state of Pennsylvania, for various medical conditions. The most common medical condition for issuance of the card was related by defendants as Anxiety Disorders which relates to 31 individuals or 60% of those possessing a Medical Marijuana certification.

The DUI unit remains as the direct administrative unit of the Drug Screening process from FCDAC clients and outside entities. The DUI Unit completed 27 hair drug screens in the 23-24 fiscal year. We continue to foster relationships with the Fayette County Child Custody offices, civil and criminal attorneys, as well as Children & Youth Services (CYS). These efforts help to increase the amount of hair drug test samples collected, analyzed, and billed for.

The FCDAC DUI Unit records, reports, and bills for the urine drug screen results for the Fayette County CYS entities that are collected by their staff in regards to their CYS clients.

The CRN and Drug & Alcohol (D&A) Assessment spreadsheet remains to be an important document of information that is utilized daily. This spreadsheet is shared with the various legal entities to help with sentencing and supervision of defendants. We strive to assist with maintaining compliance of the DUI defendants for completion of the CRN evaluation and D&A Assessment prior to sentencing.

122

participants completed the DUI Victim Impact Panel, for an 80% completion rate.



A total of eight DUI Victim Impact Panels were held for Fiscal Year 23-24. These sessions were each conducted virtually through Zoom meetings. The show rate was 80% of the individuals scheduled to attend, completing the one time session. The DUI Victim Impact Panel is a very effective program for helping motivate individuals toward behavior change in impaired driving. The below statements are shared from some of the most recent panels that were completed.

“It touched my heart and gave me chills. I cannot imagine the pain and heartache you’re feeling. I know there are no words that can ease your pain. My heart goes out to you and your family. You really touched me with this one I was stuck at the end. Its like I couldn’t get it out my mouth or if I tried I was really about to start crying. But you made me look at things so much different now and it really touched me. Thanks for sharing your speech with me. Sending healing prayers and comfort during your tough times.”

VIP Participant

“This story opened my eyes in ways I never thought it could. This story will be forever remembered and used in my head on why it is never ok to drink and drive. I hope I can inspire other people to never drink and drive.”

VIP Participant

“This is probably one of the best mind changing classes that you have to deal with with a DUI it makes you see what could happen.”

VIP Participant

“I never thought it would happen to me, I’m very lucky to have gone through this process because it really highlights a lot of things you don’t think about and I believe I’m more conscious of the unknown more now than ever. I’m thankful to have heard this story and unfortunately there’s so many more stories out there like this, I’m going to make sure i don’t add a page to them, DUIs are playing with fire and it’s only a matter of time until you get burnt. Definitely changed me. I’m extremely grateful, Thank you all and god bless.”

VIP Participant

“It’s beneficial hearing someone’s personal experience and the impact it makes on their life, forever. I’m a person who is affected by others’ emotions, so not only is it informative, but creates an emotional impact on me personally, which makes me want to reconsider making bad choices in the future. I wouldn’t want to be the demise of another’s future, nor their family/loved ones. Especially, for a night of “ fun .” I was appreciative of our speaker and hopefully she knows that her life story is making a difference.”

VIP Participant

“For me, this panel is very effective just the way it is. Having Tina come in and tell her story about her oldest daughter, not only what happened when Jessica passed but what happens after. You truly do not realize what the aftermath is for the family who loses someone in a drunk driving accident. Especially years later. Having Tina tell us how they still have to keep moving forward even though there is a big chunk of their lives missing is very moving. Tina and this panel has made a huge impact on me tonight and moving forward I will think before I act.”

VIP Participant



Case Management Services

FCDAC's Case Management Unit typically is the first point of interaction with individuals seeking assistance with substance use disorders. The role of the Case Manager is to complete screenings, level of care assessments, make referrals, and coordinate placement for treatment services. Individuals are either self-referred or come from various referral sources, such as County or Federal Probation, State Parole, CYS agencies, Mental Health Providers, Physicians, Hospitals, other D&A Treatment (Tx) Providers, Courts, and Juvenile Placements. During the screening process, information gathered determines if individuals are listed as priority. Priority scheduling is available to priority populations set forth by Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP). These priority populations include pregnant women who inject drugs, pregnant women who use substances, persons who inject drugs, overdose survivors, and veterans. Individuals who have recently been discharged from an inpatient facility or are a hospital referral are also given priority appointments. Along with demographic questions, individuals will also be asked specific questions related to current and past substance use, including type, how much, and how often.

The Case Management team was able to welcome a new full-time Case Manager to the team in April 2024, resulting in three full-time Case Managers. Additionally, we had a Certified Recovery Specialist (CRS) depart in November 2023, but were able to welcome a new full-time Certified Recovery Specialist to our team in April 2024. With the addition of these positions, our agency was able to expand outside services for coordination of treatment and warm hand-offs. The role of the Certified Recovery Specialist is to serve as a role model, mentor, advocate, and motivator to recovering individuals to promote long-term recovery and help decrease relapse potential. The CRS worked in the community by providing outreach and advocacy. The CRS can meet with individuals in community settings as well, which has been beneficial. The CRS works with our outpatient unit and treatment specialists in a team effort to ensure the individual is surrounded with support to help achieve recovery. Over the 7 months of this fiscal year that CRS services were provided, a total of 126 appointments with a CRS were attended. The CRS provided educational and recovery support groups in the community at the Fayette County Jail, Wellness Recovery, and GoodWorks Halfway House.



110

individuals had the
cost of treatment
covered by
FCDAC.

During this fiscal year, assessment and resource coordination appointments were conducted in person at FCDAC. Assessments were also conducted in community sections, including Fayette County Prison, State Parole sub office, Uniontown City Booking Center, located at the Uniontown City Police Station, and Plan of Safe Care office location at Uniontown Mall.

The level of care assessment is completed during one appointment. Based on information presented by the individual and utilizing American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) criteria, an appropriate level of care is determined. From this determination, the individual may be referred for intervention services, outpatient treatment, or hospital or non-hospital based withdrawal management/inpatient treatment. The Case Manager helps the individual access treatment services, along with referrals for any additional ancillary resources. Additionally, if the individual does not have insurance, they may be scheduled for a COMPASS appointment where a COMPASS application is completed and submitted through the Department of Human Service Promise website. Funding is available for treatment services and does not hinder access to immediate detox or inpatient treatment needs. For the fiscal year, FCDAC was able to provide 110 individuals with funding for treatment services.

FCDAC has an ongoing grant from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), which provides the ability for assessments to be completed at the Fayette County Jail as needed. The Case Management Supervisor coordinates with two Institutional Probation Officers, along with Fayette County Jail staff to coordinate these assessments. During the last quarter of this fiscal year, the Case Management Supervisor trained new Case Management staff to phase into this position working at the jail. Utilizing State Opioid Grant funding, this transition opened up more access to provide additional assessment time at the jail and also for the Certified Recovery Specialist to provide one on one recovery supports to all inmates regardless of incarceration length. Working in conjunction with Fayette County Probation and Fayette County Jail staff, the Case Manager is able to assess and coordinate inpatient, as well as outpatient treatment needs for inmate referrals.

Additionally, FCDAC continues to work with Fayette County Specialty Courts by completing level of care assessments, providing treatment court updates, and coordinating any additional needed referrals. The Case Management Supervisor attends monthly Treatment Court meetings at the Fayette County Courthouse. During these meetings, the Case Management Supervisor, along with the Treatment Supervisor, meet with Adult Probation, Specialty Court representatives, and other outside agencies to review current individuals who are involved with any division of Specialty Court. The purpose of these meetings is to review ongoing treatment needs, discuss strengths, and review any concerns.

The Case Management Supervisor remains the agency liaison with Pa State Parole. Monthly meetings continue to be held in person at our agency with Agents from Pa State Parole. During these meetings, cases are reviewed for those individuals who are on State Parole and receiving services with FCDAC. A working relationship with State Parole, along with various SCI institutions across the state, has strengthened successful reentry of parolees back into the community. Additionally, a Reentry State Parole Agent meets with parolees and the Case Management Supervisor weekly. Reentry meetings are conducted to facilitate transition to the community and help the individual in areas that may include access to treatment services, educational and vocational training, and housing services.

FCDAC continues to work with Fayette County CYs, Fayette EMS, Nurse Partnerships, and other outside agencies for Plans of Safe Care (POSC). POSC lists and directs services and supports to ensure the safety and well-being of a substance-affected infant and their caregivers. During this fiscal year, POSC was able to secure a safe and secure meeting space at Uniontown Mall, which provided our agency the ability to conduct level of care assessments for POSC referrals and also individuals who were referred by Fayette County CYs. The Case Manager aligned with this program participates in POSC meetings with these outside agencies and in partnership with these agencies, is able to help coordinate services and access to potential treatment needs to mothers who have given birth to babies who have tested positive for substances. These meetings provide guidance and planning to ensure the mother receives the most appropriate services. This same Case Manager also works closely with Fayette County CYs and receives direct referrals for persons that may have a drug and/or alcohol issue and are involved with their agency.

Ongoing collaboration with a program through Fayette County Behavioral Health Administration has provided the opportunity to make direct referrals for community-based care. Through this program, a one-page referral completed by the Case Manager can help facilitate resources for areas of housing, food insecurity, transportation, employment, financial strain, clothing, utility assistance, childcare, and physical health. Once the referral is made, a care manager will reach out to the individual to do a screening and help identify needs and coordinate additional outside referrals. Through this program individuals who have recently reentered the community from such settings as state prison, county incarceration, or transition from inpatient settings have been able to achieve higher success of reentry.

FCDAC continues to work with Fayette EMS and the CAST program. The role of the CAST team is to increase warm hand-off referrals for individuals in the community setting. Case Management staff work in conjunction with CAST to help coordinate treatment needs for those individuals in the community who have recently overdosed or are affected by current substance use. The CAST team responds to emergency calls in the community and is a direct link to case management in coordinating treatment needs. Through this partnership our agency continues to provide warm hand offs to individuals to inpatient and outpatient treatment as to remove additional barriers of transportation and access to treatment. The CAST team works with the case management unit by providing direct referrals and also is able to provide transportation for treatment and complete follow-ups following emergency care.



1900
individuals
scheduled for
assessments.

As stated previously, individuals seeking assistance with substance abuse are either self-referred or referred from various outside agencies and entities. During fiscal year 23-24, following screenings, 1900 individuals were scheduled for assessments, resulting in an increase of 16% from the previous fiscal year. Of the 1900 scheduled assessments, 948 individuals attended their scheduled appointment, resulting in a 50% show rate. This also represents an increase of 20% from the previous year. Additionally, 166 individuals were scheduled for resource coordination/aftercare appointments, with 68 completing those appointments, having a 41% show rate. Resource coordination is provided to all case management clients. Case Managers also completed individual resource coordination appointments with 20 individuals for direct admission into treatment services. Case Managers also help individuals navigate additional resource needs such as medical and/or mental health referrals, obtaining insurance, housing referrals, social and community connections, employment services, transportation, education services, and legal connections.

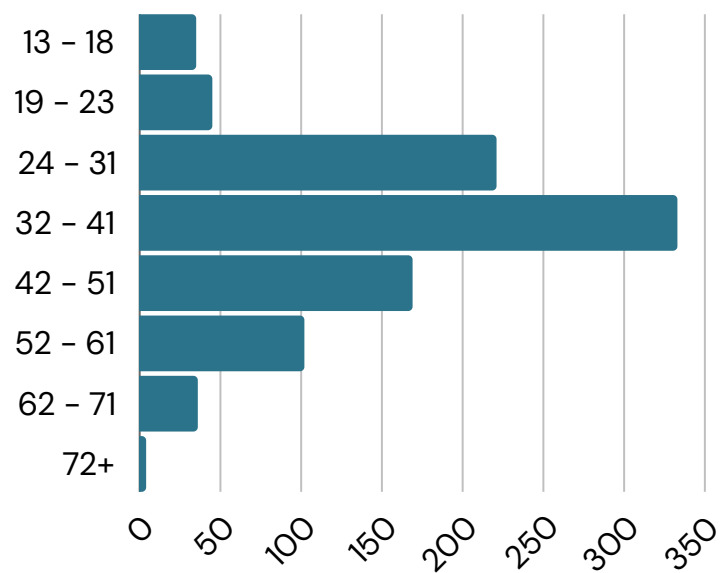
Case Management Referral Sources

Criminal Justice DUI Involved	345	Fayette Co. Adult Probation	57
Fayette County CYS	120	Court/Criminal Justice	44
Self	111	Med Mark (formerly Polaris)	31
State Parole	79	Westmoreland Co. A. Prob.	11
Fayette County Jail	79	Juvenile Probation	8

Plan of safe care, Federal Probation, and the school districts made five referrals each all other referral sources made less than five referrals each.

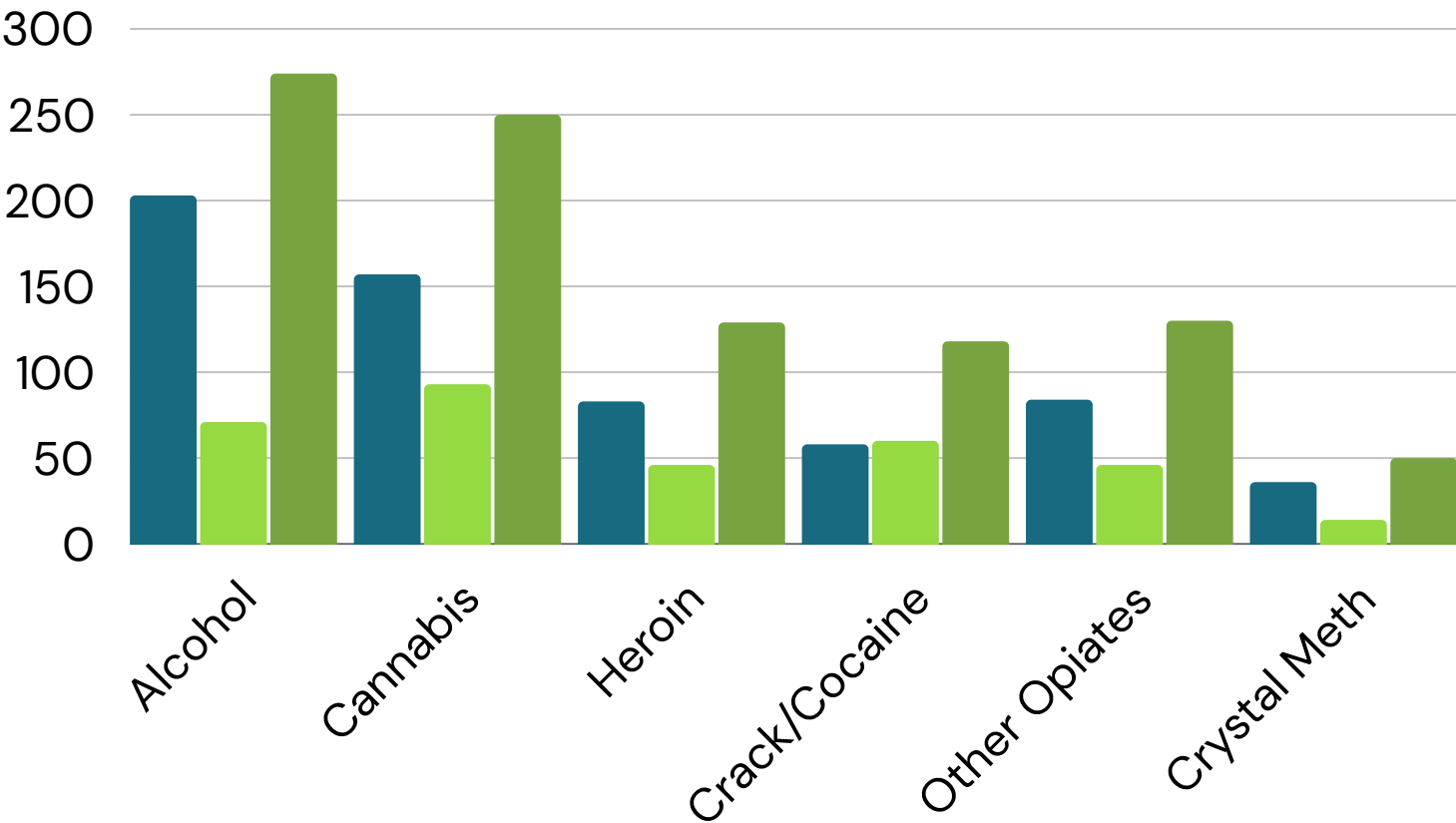
Of the 948 level of care assessments completed this fiscal year, 341 were female and 607 were male. The primary race of persons that came to FCDAC was Caucasian/White, with the second most being Black/African American, followed by two or more races. Alongside is a graph displaying the age categories of those who received assessments during this fiscal year. Consistent with previous fiscal years, the highest concentration of those assessed were in the age range 32-41 and 24-31 year old categories.

Age categories of individuals who were assessed in FY 23-24



Of persons receiving assessments during this fiscal year, the most commonly reported primary substances are alcohol, cannabis, heroin, opiates, crack/cocaine, and crystal meth. The following graph displays a breakdown of the reported primary substances for this fiscal year, displaying totals and a breakdown by reported gender. Alcohol remains the number one primary substance of choice, accounting for 29%, followed by cannabis (26%), heroin (14%), other opiates (13%), crack/cocaine (12%), and crystal meth (5%).

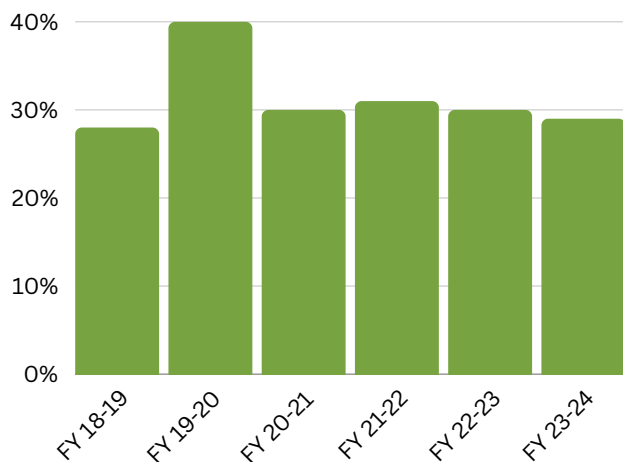
Male Female Total



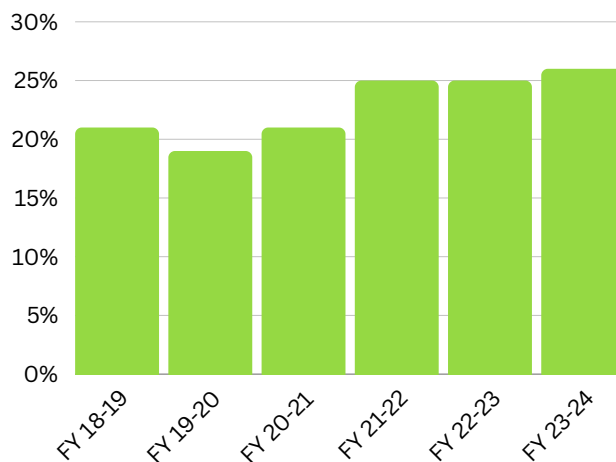
FCDAC CASE MANAGEMENT TRENDS OF PRIMARY SUBSTANCES FY 18-19 TO FY 23-24

Below you will see the primary drugs of FCDAC clients over the last six fiscal years. Alcohol remains the most used substance, accounting for 29%, which was a decrease from the previous year of 1%. Cannabis accounts for 26% of most use substance, maintaining consistency over the last three fiscal years. Other opiates (pain pills, Suboxone, Subutex, and Methadone) account for 13% of reported substance use, a decrease of 1%. Heroin/Fentanyl accounted for 14% of reported substance, a 3% increase from the previous year. An increase of 1% is reflected in reported crack/cocaine use of 12%. Five percent of clients assessed indicated crystal meth as their primary drug of choice.

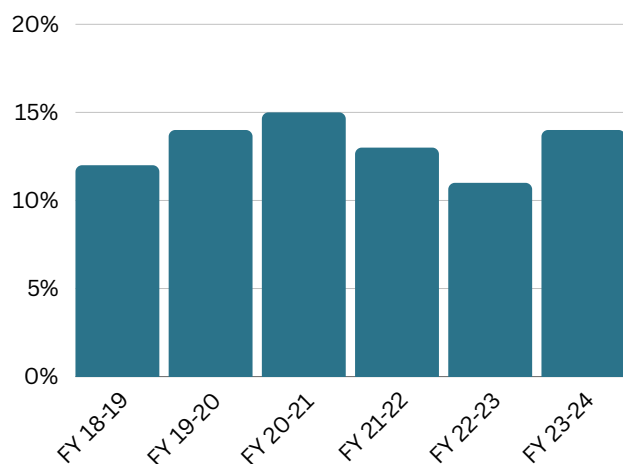
ALCOHOL



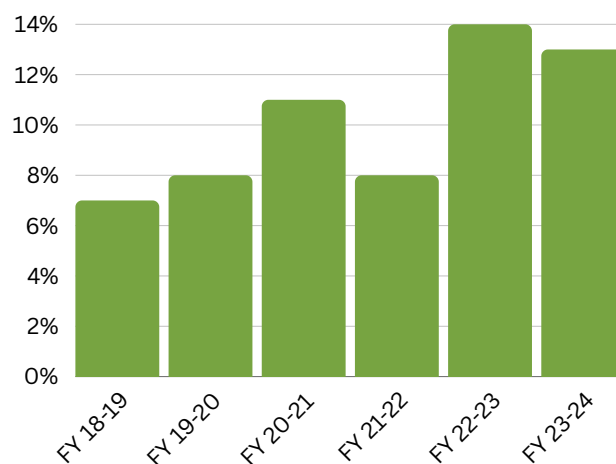
CANNABIS



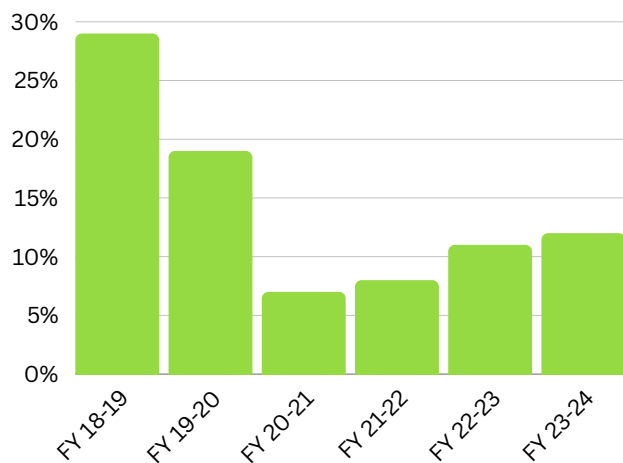
HEROIN



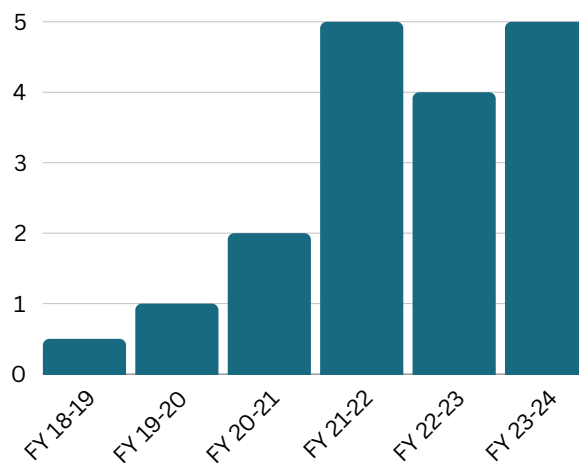
OTHER OPIATES



CRACK/COCAINE



CRYSTAL METH



TYPE OF TREATMENT INDIVIDUALS REFERRRED TO

Outpatient Treatment	685	Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Services	1
Medically Monitored Intensive Inpatient Services	84	Intensive Outpatient Treatment	5
High Intensive Residential Services	93	Low Intensive Residential Services	1
Intervention	26	No Treatment	53



Treatment Services

FCDAC's Treatment Unit provided services to 502 individuals during the 23-24 fiscal year. The treatment process begins with the individual participating in an intake. This appointment is for the therapist to meet with the individual to gain a complete psychosocial background history of the client, so the therapist can develop a comprehensive treatment plan based off the person's history.

Even though each counselor is responsible for providing individualized treatment for their clients, our treatment staff often utilizes a team approach in developing the most clinically appropriate treatment intervention for each client. This team approach affords each client the ability to benefit from each counselor's expertise and insight through the treatment that is provided at FCDAC. The treatment staff at FCDAC understands that each client seeking services needs unique and tailored services to accommodate the variety of demands that each client has in their life. The treatment unit offers group, individual, and family counseling. Each service is designed to promote structure and support for the client to increase the strengths that they may need to maintain long-term recovery. Individuals who struggle with substance use disorder are faced with many barriers that may prohibit them from seeking treatment. Such barriers often include feelings of shame, anger, guilt, fear of judgement, and several other misconceptions about the experience of treatment. The treatment staff at FCDAC strives to endorse the medical model and use evidence-based approaches to celebrate the bravery and strength in each client. These therapy approaches often include the use of Motivational Interviewing, Impact Therapy, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Rational Emotive Behavioral Therapy, and more. The objective is to assist each client in overcoming barriers while empowering each client in making healthy choices in their lives.

During the person's treatment, they are being reassessed by the therapist to ensure that they are receiving the appropriate level of care according to the ASAM criteria. Additionally, the treatment staff collaborates with other social service agencies in the county to ensure that all the person's other ancillary services, such as housing, transportation and employment needs, are met.

FCDAC provides Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for individuals who wish to participate in outpatient detoxification or maintenance programs. Such services are for individuals 18 years of age or older and who suffer from opioid use disorders. Our MAT services include the daily use of sublingual Buprenorphine or monthly injections of Sublocade, Brixadi, or Naltrexone. When a person is appropriate for MAT, the medical director evaluates their past and current substance use and prescribes the appropriate medication. The medical director, along with the treatment team, work together to monitor each client's individual progress on these medications.

Our philosophy is that psychotherapy, in addition to medication management, is most effective when paired together to address the psychosocial factors that can contribute to, or compromise, long-term recovery. If a person is not able to remain in outpatient due to continued substance use, the person is reevaluated and possibly referred to a higher level of care.

The Treatment Unit continues to offer educational groups in the Fayette County Jail and is now offering individual outpatient counseling as well. A Treatment Specialist provides groups and individual sessions four days a week for those who meet the criteria .

Additionally, the treatment unit also offers treatment for individuals who are struggling with compulsive gambling disorder. FCDAC understands the struggles that a person faces with compulsive gambling and how it impacts every aspect of the person's life. Our staff can help individuals with potential relapse triggers that they face daily. FCDAC has also been effective in the use of medication, in conjunction with treatment, to help control the impulses with individuals struggling with compulsive gambling disorder.

Treatment Referral Sources



Self



Community Agencies



DUI



Court/Criminal Justice System

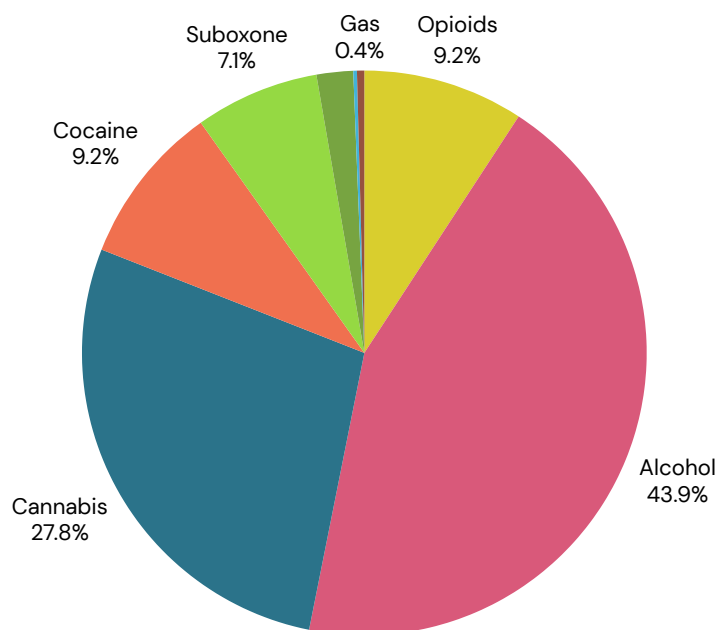


CAST

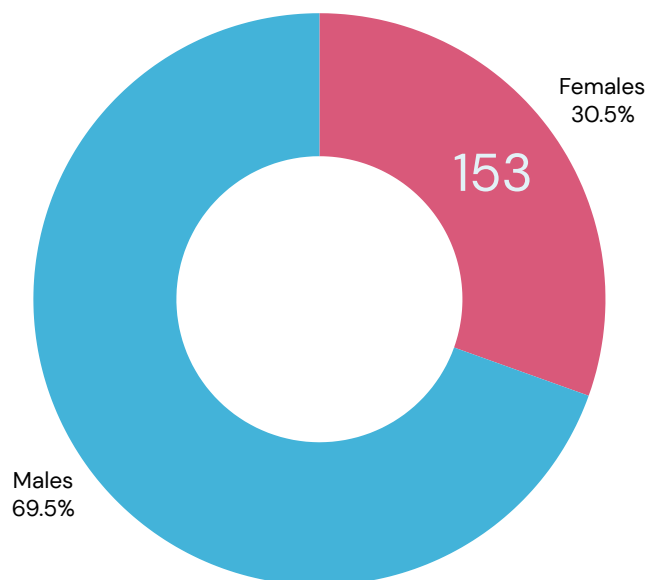


Other Drug & Alcohol Providers

The main or usual substance used by FCDAC clients



FCDAC clients by gender



78

Clients who
received regular
vivitrol injections



52

Clients who
received regular
Sublocade
Injections

There were a total of 14 clients who received regular shots of Buprenorphine.