

## Traditional & Non-Traditional Partners for Inhalant Abuse Prevention

Inhalants are unique among abused substances – they have almost universal availability, they are legal products when used for their intended purposes, and many adults are unaware of their danger. More than 1,000 everyday products, including office and art supplies, common solvents, gases, and cleaning and shop chemicals have the potential to be abused with addictive and deadly consequences.

The aim of the Maine Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services is to expand the capacity of Maine to address inhalant abuse. Our goal is to promote a knowledgeable community that gives consistent messages and develops effective strategies and policies about inhalant abuse. In your state efforts, consider enlisting the broadest range of adults who can impact youth. Because inhalable products are everywhere, messages about inhalants can reach youth from **multiple sources** and at ‘teachable moments.’

Here is a list of potential partners to involve as you think about a statewide initiative. Who you partner with depends on your state’s unique infrastructure, your relationship with key players, their interest and motivation, receptivity, resources, and reach.

### Decision Makers of Statewide Delivery Systems

- State Fire Marshal
- Northern New England Poison Control Center
- DHHS, Center for Disease Control & Prevention
- DHHS, Bureau Child and Family Services
- Juvenile Justice
- DHHS, Office of Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services
- Maine State Police
- Maine Police Chiefs Association
- Maine EMS

### Schools

- Department of Education Decision Makers
- School Health Educators
- Maine Association of Physical Education, Recreation & Dance
- School Janitors, Office Workers
- Pupil Transportation Association
- School Superintendents Assoc.
- Association of School Purchasing Agents
- School Principals
- Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinators
- Student Assistance Programs
- School Counselors, Psychologists, and Social Workers
- School Nurses
- Interscholastic Coaches Association
- Maine School Management Association

### State Prevention Infrastructure

- State Substance Abuse Prevention
- Maine Alliance to Prevent Substance Abuse
- National Prevention Network Representatives

- State Incentive Grant Coordinators / Trainers
- Maine Injury Prevention Program
- DHHS, Center for Disease Control & Prevention, Teen & Young Adult Program

### Umbrella Organizations for Health and Human Services Providers

- Associations of Community Mental Health Centers
- Associations of Youth-Serving Agencies
- Associations of Group Homes and/or Residential Schools
- Organizations of Residential Treatment Facilities (Mental Health and Substance Abuse)
- Foster Parents Association

### Professional Organizations

- Nursing Associations
- Emergency Room Physicians and Nurses Assoc.
- State Medical Society
- State Societies of Pediatricians and/or Family Medicine
- Social Work Associations
- Psychologists and/or Therapist Associations
- Substance Abuse Counselors Associations
- Marriage and Family Therapists Associations
- Probation Officers Association
- Maine Hospital Association

### Merchants

- Retailers Association
- Chambers of Commerce

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Created by the **Maine Inhalant Abuse Prevention Work Group**

For more information about inhalants please contact:

Maine Office of Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services  
Information and Resource Center

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