

**Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention:
Promoting healthy lifestyles, families, communities**



Photo by Gary Halvorson Oregon State Archive

Prevention Coordinator

Cameo Chambers, Prevention Coordinator
205 NE 4th St, Prineville, OR 97754
cameo.chambers@co.crook.or.us
(541) 416-8392

Commission on Children and Families

Brenda Comini, Director
205 NE 4th Street, Prineville, OR 97754
(541) 447-3260
brenda.comini@co.crook.or.us

Tobacco Coordinator

Jennifer Chaney Crook County Health Dept.
375 NW Beaver St, Suite 100, Prineville, 97754
(541) 447-5165

**Addictions and Mental Health Division State
Coordinator**

Jeff Ruscoe
Jeff.Ruscoe@state.or.us

Prevention in Crook County

All across the country, adults are concerned about healthy development of young people. In searching for answers to the behavior problems of alcohol and other drug abuse, delinquency, violence, school drop out, and teen pregnancy, researchers have shown there are number of **risk factors** that increase the chance of adolescents developing health and behavior problems and there are **protective factors** that give youth resilience to problems. Oregon supports county and tribal governments in their strategic plans to prevent alcohol and drug abuse.

The U.S. Census population estimates nearly 23,000 people in Crook County with access to many services through Mental Health (including AOD treatment), the Health Department, Commission on Children and Families, Emergency Services and other organizations whose mission is to create a healthy Crook County.

As of April 2009, Crook County has the highest unemployment rate in the State of Oregon at 18.5%. A number of Problem Behaviors can be predicted within a community with "Extreme Economic Deprivation": *Substance Abuse, Delinquency, Teen Pregnancy, School Dropout, and Violence (Channing Bete Company, Inc. 2002)*. It is important to know that Crook County has a strong commitment to utilizing evidence-based programs to build and strengthen *Protective Factors* and address alcohol, tobacco, other drug abuse, and unhealthy behaviors.

Crook County Community Coalition coordinates Strengthening Families Program to parents of middle school students. Crook County supports Link Crew, which connects incoming freshmen at Crook County High School with Junior and Senior Mentors to assist in the transition from middle school to high school. We also provide assistance to SADD, (Students Against Destructive Decisions).

Local Coalitions

***Community Health Improvement Program
(CHIP)***

***Sharon Vail, Pioneer Memorial Hospital
(541) 447-6254 ext. 380***

Crook County Community Coalition

***205 NE 4th St, Prineville, OR 97754
(541) 416-8392***

In this partnership, students educate their peers about healthy decisions. They also advise adult coalitions on the youth perspective. The Commission on Children & Families houses many organizations that reach out to people in need: Prevention, Veteran's Services, Victims of Domestic Violence, Energy and Rental Assistance, and CASA Volunteers.

Crook County Community Coalition plans to continue their support of community partners and facilitate implementation of more evidence-based programs to assist people in making healthy choices and lifestyles.