

Substance Use Liaison

GOAL

To provide a consistent, relevant drug and alcohol program throughout the district including a solid continuum of service for substance-using youth and families.

Assessment

If a student is caught in possession or under the influence of drugs or alcohol at school, the Substance Use Liaison (SUL) meets with the student to assess his or her drug usage.

** In order to ensure the success of the program, the referral needs to be made at the time of suspension.**

Referral

Following the assessment, the SUL assists the student in finding specialized community support, if necessary.

Community-based programs include:

Pacific Community Resources

- Astra Drug and Alcohol Counselling Program
- Prevention and Education Program

Surrey Mental Health and Addictions

Peace Arch Community Services

- Addiction Services

Intervention

If a student is unwilling to change his or her usage and would not make a suitable referral to an outside resource he or she would continue to be supported by our team through our drug education program.

Recognizing that students are at different stages in their efforts towards meaningful change, the SUL will remain committed to working with students who resist community resource intervention.

After-Care

The SUL provides the referral source with an "involvement summary" that outlines the student's attendance, participation and any outside referrals made, while still respecting the student's right to confidentiality.

The SUL also provides ongoing one-to-one support following the student's return to school.

Parent Support

Team members support parents/guardians as they try to deal with their son or daughter's substance abuse.

Campus Awareness

We involve students in projects that focus attention on the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse and the problems of dependency.

Community Development

The Substance Use Liaison team works collaboratively with the community by hosting public forums on topics such as drug categories / effects, paraphernalia and addition. We also work closely with the Surrey RCMP Youth Section, Youth Intervention Program and Safe School Liaisons to maintain a safe and caring school environment.

Educational Support

Presentations are available for classrooms on all topics that relate to drug use, prevention and education. (Please see the presentation request form for further information.)

Professional Development

The Substance Use Liaison is available to provide professional development for teachers, counsellors and administrators on topics such as drug categories/effects, paraphernalia, etc. (Please see presentation request form for further information.)

Peer Educators

The Substance Use Liaison program will soon be developing a peer-based education program in which students will assist in the delivery of substance use prevention material.

Criteria for Referral

All referrals need to be communicated through either the Principal, Vice Principal, District Resource Counsellor or RCMP Youth Section Officer. Youth need to be informed that they are being referred.