## Beyond "Just Say No": Youth as Assets in Marijuana Use Prevention & Intervention

Session: Thursday, June 20, 2019, 9:00 a.m.—11:45 a.m. Presented By: Jessica Neuwirth, Retail Marijuana Education & Youth Prevention Coordinator, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

**Jessica Neuwirth** is the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Retail Marijuana Education and Youth Prevention Coordinator, working on marijuana policy education, local outreach and partnerships, and connecting the marijuana prevention program to positive youth development initiatives across the state. Jessica is responsible for implementing legislation to ensure safe, legal and responsible use of marijuana. She currently trains community members



in retail marijuana public health education as well as Positive Youth Development to support youth and adults in the shift towards authentic and engaged systems.

#### Workshop Overview

The physical, social and psychological changes adolescents undergo can not only impact their behavior and how they interact with the world, including illicit substance use, but can also impact how the adults around them respond to this transformation. During this time of significant transition and increasing independence for youth, resources and systems for youth must be constructed in a developmentally appropriate approach. After five years of legalized retail marijuana in Colorado, we have an abundance of lessons learned about engaging youth and youth-serving professionals in prevention and intervention of substance abuse. Learn about what has - and hasn't - worked in Colorado post-legalization.

# Workshop A: Showing up as Trusted Adults: A Deeper Dive into Positive Youth Development

Session: Thursday, June 20, 2019, 1:30 p.m.—2:45 p.m. & 3:45 p.m.—4:30 p.m. Presented By: Jessica Neuwirth, Retail Marijuana Education & Youth Prevention Coordinator, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

### Workshop Overview

Dive deeper into Positive Youth Development, the underpinnings of state and local work to shift our systems so all young people are healthy, connected, contributing, and educated. Understanding adolescence through a developmental lens gives cause for the integration of a positive youth development approach into marijuana prevention and intervention with and on behalf of young people, as it addresses the needs youth have in meaningful and relevant ways with an end goal of helping youth transition into adulthood successfully. Positive Youth Development, a dual strategy of risk reduction and promotion of protective factors, holds the greatest promise as a public health strategy to improve outcomes for ALL youth.



### Workshop B: The Effect of Family Substance Use on the Treatment of Adolescents and Improving the Recovery Environment

Session: Thursday, June 21, 2019, 1:30 p.m.—2:45 p.m. & 3:15 p.m.—4:30 p.m. *Presented By: Holly Wixon, Associate Director of Community Substance Use Disorder Programs, Wedgwood Christian Services* 

**Holly Wixon, MA, LMSW, CAADC,** is the Associate Director of Substance Abuse Services for Wedgwood Christian Services. She graduated with her Masters in Social Work from Western Michigan University in 2013. Holly helps to equip and manage over 45 staff members. She engages in continual

education in evidence-based practices as part of her commitment to providing useful and best practices to her staff and clients. In her free time, she likes to spend time with her husband, Jeremy, and two dogs, Annie and Britta.

### Workshop Overview

Historically, adolescent substance use treatment and engagement has been difficult for even the most welltrained professionals. The treatment of adolescents has been further complicated by the legalization of marijuana. How do we engage a population that is asked to refrain from drug use but comes home to family members smoking marijuana? This presentation will not only provide the reasons why engaging the family is important to treatment, but will equip participants on strategies and techniques to engage juveniles when the family is not supportive of recovery.

## Workshop C: Treatment Considerations for Youth with Co-Occurring Disorders

Session: Thursday, June 21, 2019, 1:30 p.m.—2:45 p.m. & 3:15 p.m.—4:30 p.m. *Presented By: Anthony Muller, Director of Clinical and Business Development, Wedgwood Christian Services* 

**Anthony Muller M.A., L.P.C., CAADC, CCS**, has worked in the mental health and substance abuse field for 22 years. He is an experienced trainer with local, statewide, national and international training experience. He currently works for Wedgwood Christian Services and is the Director of Clinical and Business Development. Although he has administrative functions he is able to continue doing weekly clinical work

with adolescents in Kent County. He has been married for 22 years and has 4 sons ages 15, 12 and two 8 year olds.

### Workshop Overview

Adolescent substance use continues to accelerate. The shift in our culture's views on substance use has impacted our adolescents significantly since using is now much more acceptable and accessible. However, one of the largest reasons adolescents begin using in the first place is due to managing stress, frustration, anxiety and other mental health struggles. This session looks to address the basic components of adolescent substance use and will discuss how stress, frustration, anxiety and other mental health struggles interact and impact adolescent's substance use patterns. Co-occurring best practice principles will be presented and discussed.



**Marijuana Legalization: A Defense Attorney Perspective** Session: Friday, June 21, 2019, 9:00 a.m.—10:15 a.m. *Presented By: Chad Catalino, Director, Office of the Public Defender, Allegan and Van Buren Counties* 

**Chad D. Catalino, JD**, graduated from Grand Valley State University in 1998 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Legal Studies. In 2003, Mr. Catalino graduated in the top twenty percent of his class and Cum Laude from Michigan State University Law School. Mr. Catalino has completed additional continuing professional training opportunities including but not limited to the Bronx Public Defender's Office Holistic Defense Technical Assistance Grant Project; Prosecuting Attorney Association of Michigan's Trial Training Program; the Hillman Trial Advocacy Program and the Criminal Defense Association of Michigan's Trial College.



Throughout his career, Mr. Catalino has been consistently dedicated to public service. Since entering the practice of law, Mr. Catalino has actively practiced in both the private and public sector, where he has litigated every type of case in both the adult and juvenile courts. Mr. Catalino has litigated cases ranging from life offense Felony Murder to misdemeanor driving offense cases. Additionally, Mr. Catalino has litigated Abuse Neglect Cases, where he was recognized in the State of Michigan for his leadership in the area of Abuse / Neglect law as he was voted the 2013 Parent Attorney of the Year by the Foster Care Review Board of Michigan.

In addition to his legal experience, during his previous employment as Supervising Attorney of the Misdemeanor Division of the Muskegon County Public Defender's Office and in his current position as the Director of the Allegan Van Buren Counties' Public Defender's Office, Mr. Catalino has partnered with the Bronx Public Defender's Office to be the first Public Defender's Offices in Michigan to implement Holistic Defense into the practice of law. Without State or local funding, Mr. Catalino co-developed and implemented a partnership with the Grand Valley State University's School of Social Work to begin a Social Work Holistic Defense Internship Program, whereby MSW and BSW candidates became primarily responsible for the day to day social work interactions with indigent defendants. This program has reduced incarceration sentences for indigent defendants; reduced costs to jail administrators; positively impacted recidivism issues; allowed for pretrial substance abuse and mental health treatment for indigent defendants; and has allowed indigent defendants to maintain their social services benefits thereby helping indigent defendants more appropriately return to society.

Mr. Catalino has presented interactive seminars and lectures at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services State Training; Muskegon County Healthwest Maternal Infant Support; Maternal Infant Support Regional Training Program; for Muskegon and Ottawa Counties' DHHS; Ottawa County Foster Parents Training Program; Wedgwood Christian Services; Michigan State University Law School Moot Court Program; The Grand Valley State University Police Academy; Grand Valley State University's School of Social Work Capstone Classes; Regional Social Work Professionals Training Programs through Grand Valley State University; as well as to numerous local police agencies.

### Workshop Overview

In this presentation, Mr. Catalino will provide a defense attorney perspective on marijuana legalization. A number of counties in Michigan have already decided to dismiss cases of possession for adults, but it is yet unclear exactly how this will translate to juvenile cases. Mr. Catalino will draw on his experience as a Lawyer Guardian Ad Litem to discuss what marijuana possession and usage will become as it shifts to a status offense.

## It's the Law: How Legalizing Marijuana for Adults Will Impact Juveniles in Michigan

Session: Friday, June 21, 2019, 10:30 a.m.—11:45 a.m.

Presented By: Kenneth Stecker, Michigan Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan

**Kenneth Stecker, JD**, is a graduate of Loyola Marymount University and the University of Detroit School of Law.

Since March 2008, Mr. Stecker has been the Michigan Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TSRP) for the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan's TSRP funded by the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning.



Prior to working for the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, for three years, Mr. Stecker was an assistant prosecuting attorney in Kalamazoo County. Then, for eight years, he was an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Branch County. Thereafter, for an additional eight years, he became the Branch County Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney.

During the 2015 Lifesavers Conference, Mr. Stecker received the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Public Service Award. NHTSA recognized him for his outstanding service in providing expert legal advice and training resources to Michigan's criminal justice community.

Mr. Stecker and his wife Christy have three children, Marina, Sierra, and Jacob.

### Workshop Overview

The legal issues around marijuana use have been developing rapidly over the last decade. With the recent legalization of recreational marijuana use for adults, this topic continues to evolve – often posing more questions than those answered. In this presentation, Mr. Stecker will explore how Michigan's medical and recreational marijuana laws influence marijuana and illicit drug use among juveniles. He will also explain and evaluate the effect medical marijuana laws have had on juvenile marijuana use in an attempt to inform possible outcomes.