

Individual

Risk Factors

Thinks most friends use
Association with drug-using peers
Certain physical, emotional or personality traits
Inherited genetic vulnerability
Low self esteem
Psychological disturbances
Inappropriate coping responses
Violence/ aggression
Risk taking propensity/impulsivity
Alienation and rebelliousness
Rejection of pro-social values/religion
Lack of peer refusal skills
Early and persistent problem behaviors
Early sexual activity/teen pregnancy
Begins using at a young age
Early anti-social behavior
Peer rejection in elementary grades
Academic Failure
Less involved in recreational, social and cultural activities
Lack of information on positive health behaviors
Lack of information on drug-related topics

Protective Factors

Knowledge regarding risks associated with substance abuse/use
Negative attitudes toward substances and substance use
Bonding to pro-social culture
Positive relationships with adults
Views parents, teachers, doctors, law enforcement officers and other adults as allies
Social competence
Youth involvement in alternative activities
Sense of well-being/self confidence
Has positive future plans

Peer

Risk Factors

Reinforcement of negative norms and expectations within peer group

Thinks alcohol and drug use is "cool"

Inappropriate sexual activity among peers

Ties to deviant peers/gang involvement

Protective Factors

Involved in substance-free activities

Friends disapprove of alcohol and other drug use

Family

Risk Factors

Family members with a history of alcohol or other drug abuse

Family members don't spend much time together

Parents have trouble keeping track of teens, who they're with and where they go

Lack of clear rules and consequences regarding alcohol and other drug use

Parents use drugs, involve youth in their use ("Get me a beer, would you?") or tolerate use by youth

Parents have trouble setting consistent expectations and limits

Family conflict/abuse

Loss of employment

Protective Factors

Close family relationships

Consistency of parenting

Education is valued and encouraged, and parents are actively involved

Copes with stress in a positive way

Clear expectations and limits regarding alcohol and other drug use

Encourages supportive relationships with caring adults beyond the immediate family

Share family responsibilities, including chores and decision making

Family members are nurturing and support each other

School

Risk Factors

Lack of clear expectations, both academic and behavioral

Students lack commitment or sense of belonging at school

High numbers of students who fail academically at school

Parents and community members not actively involved

Protective Factors

Positive attitudes toward school

School bonding

Regular school attendance

Communicates high academic and behavioral expectations

Encourages goal-setting, academic achievement and positive social development

Tutoring available

Positive instructional climate

Provides leadership and decision making opportunities for students

Fosters active involvement of students, parents and community members

Sponsors substance-free events

School responsive to students' needs

Community/Society

Risk Factors

Alcohol and other drugs readily available

Irresponsible servers and sellers

Affordability

Laws and ordinances are unclear or inconsistently enforced

Norms are unclear or encourage use

Residents feel little sense of "connection" to community

Neighborhood disorganization

Rapid changes in neighborhood populations

High unemployment

Residents at or below the poverty level

Extreme economic deprivation

Lack of strong social institutions

Lack of monitoring youths' activities

Inadequate media portrayals

Misleading advertising

Pro-use messages

Protective Factors

Opportunities exist for community involvement

Community religious composition

Laws and ordinances are consistently enforced

Informal social control

Policies and norms encourage non-use

Community service opportunities available for youth

Resources (housing, healthcare, childcare, jobs, recreation, etc.) are available

Comprehensive risk focused programs available

Programs for parents of children and adolescents

Early childhood and family support programs

Widely supported community prevention efforts e