

MAYOR JOSEPH A. CURTATONE,
SOMERVILLE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT,
& SOMERVILLE PREVENTION SERVICES, PRESENT:

SOMERVILLE PREVENTION NEWSLETTER

Prevention Works!

**Welcome to Somerville Prevention's
Fall/Winter 2020 Newsletter!**

**The past few months were filled with
many prevention activities.**

Please read to find out more!



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**SOMERVILLE CARES
ABOUT PREVENTION**

Together we can make a difference



**SOMERVILLE
Public Health**
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



NEW PREVENTION ROLE

Substance Use Prevention Coordinator

Kira Vaughan, LMHC

In Oct. 2019, Prevention welcomed a new member!

Originally from the D.C. area, Kira has been working in Boston's community mental health world as an addiction and trauma counselor since 2013. A graduate of Lesley University and a licensed therapist, she focuses on working collaboratively with her clients and the communities they live in. This has ranged from veterans to the post-incarceration population, the homeless, refugees and immigrants, and many racially diverse neighborhoods throughout the Greater Boston area. Kira is also interested in the intersection between mental health and physical wellness, integrated care models of treatment, and utilizing education as a means of prevention with healthcare issues.



Kira's role is focused on providing clinical substance use assessments and educational interventions directly to Somerville youth. She also works directly with various community partners and stakeholders to help further substance use prevention efforts across Somerville.

She is also updating our social media pages, and encourages you to follow us on all of our social media platforms:

Instagram: [@SomervillePrevention](https://www.instagram.com/SomervillePrevention)

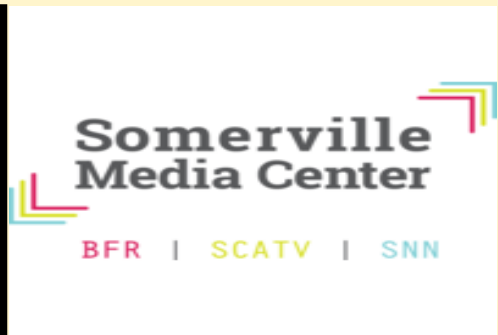
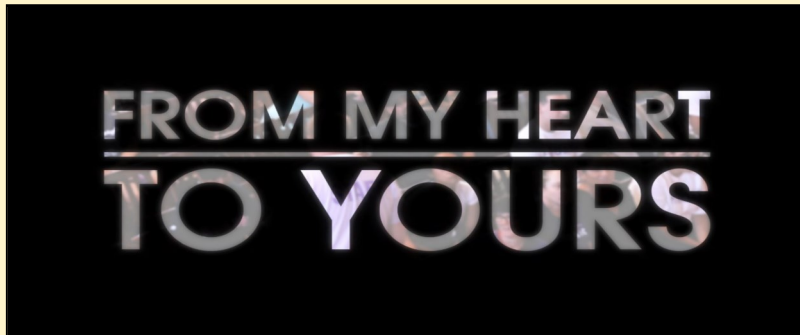
Facebook: [facebook.com/SomervilleCares](https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCares)



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PREVENTION EVENTS



After it's successful premiere in 2019, we partnered with MOAR and the City's Council on Aging to provide additional screenings of the short documentary, "From My Heart to Yours". These two screenings were very well attended.

It was also just named Best Documentary in the Access Center Professional category of the Alliance of Community Media Hometown Media Awards!

The City of Somerville & Somerville Media Center are pleased to announce the **FREE** **2020 Screening Series of FROM MY HEART TO YOURS**

An intimate look at how the availability and use of opioids impacts the lives of many and their journey towards recovery.

- Jan. 16th • MOAR — 6:30 p.m.**
9 New Washington Street
- Feb. 6th • Council on Aging — 5:00 p.m.**
167 Holland Street
- Mar. 6th • Connexion — 6:30 p.m.**
149 Broadway
- Apr. 15th • Somerville Library—6:00 p.m.**
79 Highland Avenue

For more information or to RSVP, please e-mail mmitchell@somervillema.gov





PREVENTION HAPPENINGS

Opioid Overdose Prevention

Somerville Prevention continues to focus on reducing overdoses in our community through education sessions open to all community members. This includes:

Overdose Data to Action (OD2A)

Somerville Prevention received funding from MDPH's Bureau of Substance Addiction Services (BSAS) division to supplement the current community opioid overdose prevention trainings. This grant, in conjunction with the Cambridge Public Health Department, aims to equip the homeless and housing unstable with critical overdose prevention knowledge and harm reduction strategies to save lives. We partnered with Fenway Health and the Somerville Homeless Coalition to deliver these trainings while also working to train homeless/housing insecure agencies.

Overdose Prevention & Naloxone Trainings



Somerville's original independent newspaper
www.thesomervilletimes.com

HOME FEATURES COMMENTARY COMMUNITY/ARTS SPORTS CRIME REPORTS LEGAL ADS PRESS RELEASES CONTACT US

Writers' Desk: Veterans Day Remembering Somerville Veterans of The Great War on Veterans Day

The winners of The Somerville Times Reader's Choice 2019
On November 11, 2015, in Latest News, by The Somerville Times

THE BEST OF SOMERVILLE 2019
Readers choices for 2019

Congratulations to the winners!
Please support their businesses and let them know you saw them in
The Somerville Times

Best Idea in 2019:
Somerville municipal buildings being equipped with Narcan

NATIONAL GRID
Somerville, save up to 30% on energy costs. nationalgrid

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To receive a digital copy of

The Overdose Prevention training team has now trained 307 Somerville residents, businesses, staff, etc. while distributing 160 doses of Narcan. We are also proud to announce that all City of Somerville's municipal buildings are now equipped with Narcan which was named The Somerville Times Best Idea in 2019.

If interested in a training, please inquire at mmitchell@somervillema.gov



PREVENTION HAPPENINGS



The Boston Museum of Science and Tufts Clinical and Translational Science Institute:

“Building Communities of Resilience: Substance Use Disorder”

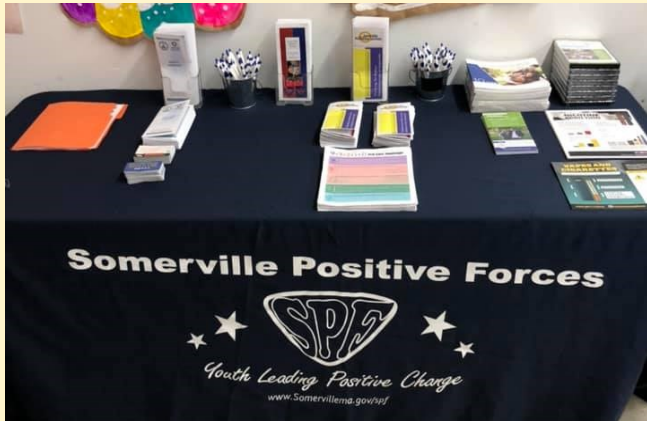
Somerville Prevention collaborated with the Museum of Science, Tufts Community Health, and substance use specialists for a community dialogue and discussion event at the Museum of Science. Attended by many other concerned community partners, the discussion was focused on how to build resiliency around SUD's at the community level informed by community experts, including our own Prevention Services Manager, Matthew Mitchell.





PREVENTION HAPPENINGS

Community Game Show & Discussion Event: January 30, 2020



This year, our Community Game Show was hosted by Connexion! Our SPF youth leaders did a great job presenting the newest YRBS data for middle school students & facilitators generated some lively discussions to inform our work.





PREVENTION HAPPENINGS

2018-2019 Middle School Health Survey



The Middle School Health Survey results are in!
Some key substance use-related data points include:



- Alcohol (4%), tobacco (1%), marijuana (3%), and other drug (0.2%) use rates continued to decline and/or remained at historic lows.
- Electronic vapor products use increased from 1% in 2017 to 3% in 2019, similar to state and national trends.
 - Somerville Prevention has taken this issue head on by leading the way with making regulation changes that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts shortly thereafter adopted in regards to flavor restrictions.
 - Our Tobacco Control Director, Bonny Carroll, has led efforts to educate all Somerville storeowners that sell tobacco/nicotine products by doing in person visits (pre-COVID), phone calls, etc. to ensure folks are in compliance with new regulations by June 1, 2020.
 - Our SCAP Program Director, Lovelee Heller-Bottari, and SPF 100 & Jr. youth are also working hard to address these concerns by creating social media posts to raise awareness, looking into innovative technology to curb use in school bathrooms, and participating in Take Down Tobacco Day.

Most Don't!

SBIRT 2019-2020

Each school year, 7th and 9th graders across Massachusetts must receive an SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, & Referral to Treatment) screening that is an evidence-based practice used to identify, reduce, and prevent problematic use of substances.

Somerville Prevention, in conjunction with School Nurses, lead these efforts. The team was able to successfully screen 580 students, representing over 92% of the 7th and 9th grade populations in the respective schools screened!



PREVENTION HAPPENINGS

SCAP Annual Event *May 21st, 2020*

SCAP's 16th Annual Event looked a little different this year as it was the first time it was completely virtually!



State Representative
Christine Barber



State Senator
Sal DiDomenico



Connexion Pastor
Jordan Harris



We thank all SPF youth, our amazing partners, and coalition members who attended and made the night such a successful event!



COMMUNITY PREVENTION PROJECTS

CBA Medicinal Marijuana Working Group

The CBA medicinal marijuana working group, led by HHS Director Doug Kress, was created to collect key stakeholders to discuss youth marijuana prevention efforts in Somerville. Here are a few highlights of some of the work to come out of this effort.

Substance Use Treatment Information Pamphlets

Somerville Prevention aided the medicinal marijuana community with substance use treatment information pamphlets to distribute to patients.

Pamphlets are available at each of the three medicinal dispensaries in Somerville.

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Treatment Resources

City of Somerville
Health & Human Services
50 Evergreen Avenue
Somerville, MA 02145

This pamphlet contains a list of treatment resources for those who feel they are struggling with their substance use, and are looking for help.

Marijuana Treatment

- Marijuana Anonymous**
 A support group that utilizes the traditional 12 Step model.
<https://marijuana-anonymous.org/>
- Smart Recovery**
 A support group alternative to MA.
<https://www.smartrecovery.org/marijuana-addiction/>

Alcohol Treatment

- Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)**
 A support group that utilizes the traditional 12 Step model.
<https://aaboston.org/>
- Massachusetts Helpline**
 An online list of treatment programs in Massachusetts; there is also a 24/7 free and confidential hotline.
<https://helplinema.org/>
 1-800-327-5050
- Smart Recovery**
 A support group alternative to AA.
<https://www.smartrecovery.org/>

Opioid Treatment

- Massachusetts Helpline**
 An online list of treatment programs in Massachusetts; there is also a 24/7 free and confidential hotline.
 1-800-327-5050
<https://helplinema.org/>
- Narcotics Anonymous**
 A support group that utilizes the traditional 12 step model.
<https://nera.org/>
- Smart Recovery**
 A support group alternative to NA.
<https://www.smartrecovery.org/>



COMMUNITY PREVENTION PROJECTS

Prevention Ambassadors Program



The Prevention Ambassadors Program is a collaboration between the City of Somerville and the School-Based Family and Community Liaisons with the Somerville Public Schools to educate caregivers on how to effectively talk with youth about substance use.

Before COVID-19 shutdowns, Lee-Anne King and Somerville Prevention were able to successfully host the first “Let’s Talk” information session at the West Somerville School with over 25+ caregivers in attendance. Future discussions to be scheduled.

Marijuana PSAs



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The City of Somerville and Somerville Media Center (SMC) are collaborating to create public services announcements (PSAs) about youth use prevention and responsible use of marijuana for adults.

PSAs are currently in the development process.



COMMUNITY PREVENTION PROJECTS

#NipIt

The distribution of the #NipIt posters in liquor stores launched in Fall 2019! We continue to encourage all Somerville community members to properly dispose of empty nip bottles in order to reduce litter and subsequent youth exposure to alcohol in our community spaces.

<p>RETHINK YOUR DISPOSAL</p> 	<p>YOU can help, THROW NIPS AWAY!</p>	<p>Reconsiderere donde desechar las botellas vacias de licor</p> 	<p>USTED puede ayudar, depositandolos en un recipiente de basura!</p>
	<p>Children are frequently exposed to small alcohol bottles in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Parks •Playgrounds •Schools •Sidewalks •Streets <p>#NIPIT</p> 		<p>Los niños están expuestos frecuentemente a pequeñas botellas de alcohol en:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Parques • Parques infantiles •Escuelas • Aceras • Calles <p>#NIPIT</p> 
<p>Follow us on Instagram: @PreventionACES</p>		<p>Síguenos en Instagram: @PreventionACES</p>	

In January 2020, the #PreventionACES collaborative provided education to legislators about the results of our survey that asked residents of Arlington, Cambridge, Everett, and Somerville about the prevalence of littered small alcohol bottles in community spaces as it relates to a proposed bill about proper disposal.

Sal DiDomenico @SalDiDomenico

1/4 Yesterday I had the pleasure of testifying in front of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy, in favor of my bill, S.452, An Act relative to the proper disposal of miniatures. Discarded miniature alcohol bottles, better known as "nips,"



Sal DiDomenico @SalDiDomenico · 6h

Replying to @SalDiDomenico

2/4 are a major source of litter on our state's roadways, in our public parks, and even on our school grounds. Amending the existing bottle deposit law in our state to include nips will help get this issue under control in our neighborhoods.

Sal DiDomenico @SalDiDomenico · 6h

3/4 The issue of nips on the ground is nonpartisan and effects every region of the commonwealth. I was also happy to be joined by members of the ACES Prevention Collaborative that serves Everett and Cambridge in my district,

Sal DiDomenico @SalDiDomenico · 6h

4/4 along with the Town of Arlington and the City of Somerville, in support of the bill.



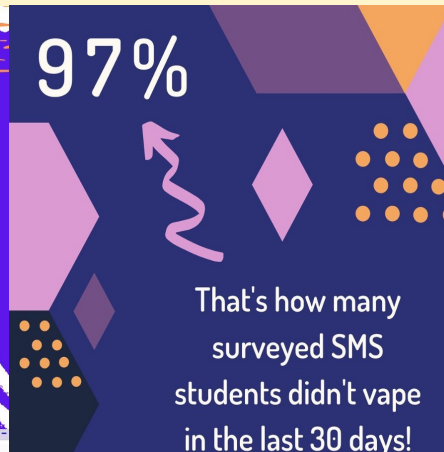


COMMUNITY PREVENTION PROJECTS

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week (3/30-4/5)

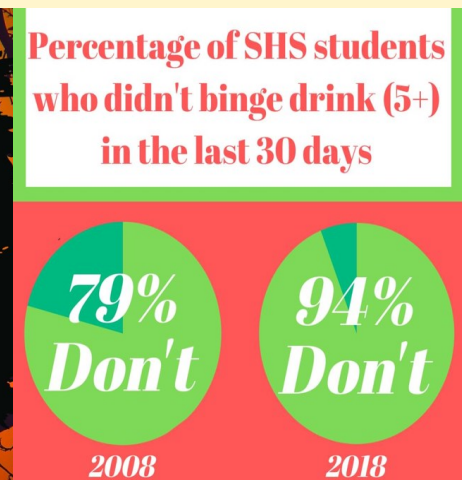
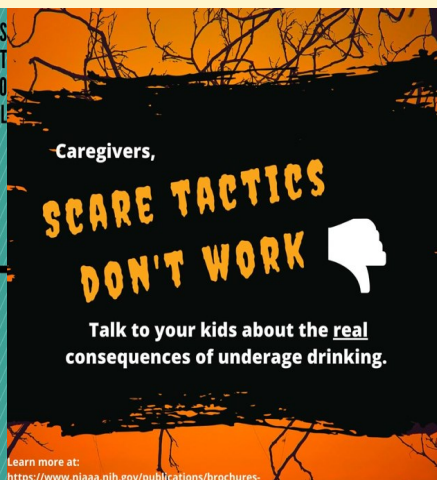
As part of National Drug and Alcohol Facts week, Somerville Prevention created social media posts to educate community members on the most recent data from the Somerville Student Health Survey for middle and high school students.

Check out some featured graphics below!



Alcohol Awareness Month (April 2020)

In addition, April was Alcohol Awareness Month. Somerville Prevention created social media posts to educate community members on the risks, data, and treatment resources related to alcohol use.





UPCOMING IN 2020

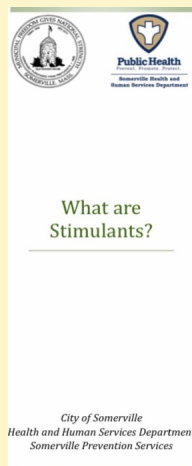
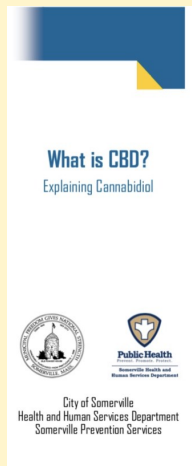
Problem Gambling Photo Voice Project



Through a grant funded by the Bureau of Substance Addiction Services' (BSAS) Office of Problem Gambling Services, Somerville Prevention partnered with CHA Everett and the Malden YMCA to complete a photo voice project with youth to raise awareness and educate the community about problematic gambling that can have profound impacts on communities. More to come soon!

"What is..." Educational Pamphlets

Somerville Prevention created educational pamphlets to be distributed to community members looking to get accurate information about substances. Keep an eye out for these in community spaces! If you are interested in any, please contact kvaughan@somervillema.gov





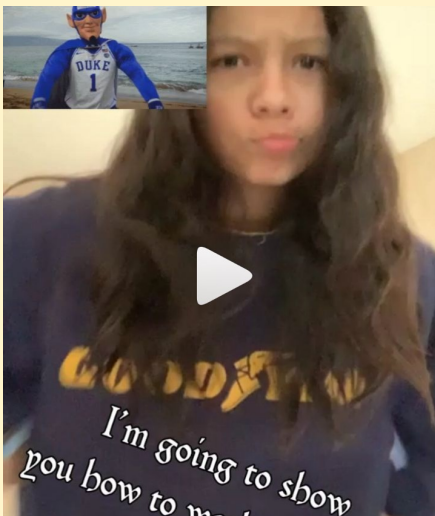
WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

City of Somerville's Emergency Response to COVID-19

Members of the prevention team volunteered to assist with the City's food access efforts during COVID-19 at the city's emergency pop-up food pantry.

City staff and volunteers worked together to create 250-300 bags of food a day for distribution to some of our most vulnerable community members.

A huge shout out to the City, Shape Up Somerville, and all food access partners who made this effort possible!



Our youth SPF Leaders also helped during the shutdown by creating a series of awareness videos and other social media posts to help promote hand washing and social distancing.



Check out our Instagram [@somervilleprevention](https://www.instagram.com/somervilleprevention) or [Facebook.com/SomervilleCares](https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCares) to see their work!



SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES UPDATES



We are Somerville Positive Forces (SPF)!

SPF are students from Somerville High School and Prospect Hill Academy working to reduce underage alcohol and drug use for youth in Somerville by creating a healthier community which supports youth health and wellness and sees youth as valuable agents of community change.

This year we worked to highlight teen vaping issues; raise awareness around laws regarding underage substance use; promote positive social norms; provide quit supports for teens; and lead positive community change on local, state and national levels.

2019-2020 SPF Prevention Projects

1. Spark Share Summit
2. The84.Org Youth Leadership Conference
3. *Highlander Rules* Freshman Guides and Support Services Info Bags
4. Holiday Sticker Shock Campaign
5. YRBS Data Results Event and World Cafe Discussions
6. Zeptive - Vape Detectors
7. Most Don't Campaign
8. Snapchat Underage Use Report Button
9. Media Literacy & Music Curriculum
10. Tobacco 101 Training
11. National Kick Butts Day
12. COVID-19 Youth Support and Safety Video PSA with SCATV
13. Take Down Tobacco Day with The84.org
14. The Good Kind of Quitting Campaign Posts and Videos Promoting Teen Quit Supports
15. Virtual SCAP Annual Meeting
16. Prevention Project Photovoice Exhibit
17. Youth Leadership Photovoice Exhibit



SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES IN ACTION!



HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP



VISIT:

[HTTPS://WWW.SOMERVILLEMA.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.somervillema.gov/coronavirus)



Give your lungs a fighting chance



Text 887-09 to VapeFreeMass for support to quit today!

I #TakeDownTobacco because...

YOUTH HAVE A RIGHT TO GROW UP HEALTHY + WE ALL NEED TO PROTECT THAT RIGHT.

TAKE DOWN TOBACCO
ALL DAY OF ACTION



SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES UPDATES



CONGRATULATIONS SPF LEADERS!

Over this past year, SPF Jr. and SPF 100 youth leaders have worked very hard to prevent peer substance use through various prevention projects, trainings, and partnerships. Their efforts will help promote a healthier community for years to come! We are so proud of their leadership and dedication in this important quest to help save lives.

- Lovelee, Abby, and Jenna

THANK YOU TO OUR INTERNS!



We would like to share our sincere appreciation for Abby Hyland for working with us throughout this time with SPF 100 and for putting her best effort to the group enlightening us with hers ideas.



We want to share our appreciation for Jenna Troccoli for all her support for our group this year to help us with our prevention work. She helped us connect with each other and taught us important leadership skills.. She is a strong, intelligent, kind-hearted and generous person. She has provided tremendous support to SPF this year and we will miss her so much!



SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES UPDATES



The *Good* kind of *Quitting*



QUIT SERVICES
for youth

Text "**VapeFreeMass**" to **88709** to join a **free** and **confidential** texting program for young people who vape

For more information and help, visit www.the84.org and/or www.thetruth.com

#AGoodKindOfQuit
#VapeFreeMass
#TakeDownTobacco

Coming in June: No Menthol Know Why Campaign

To learn more, please visit: <https://www.nomentholknowwhy.org/>





SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES UPDATES



SPF Leader Reflections

Parshuna Karki, SPF100 Youth Leader

My name is Parshuna Karki, I am a 8th grader at Prospect Hill Academy Charter School. Some of my interests are cooking, hanging out with my friends and traveling. I joined SPF because I wanted to help the community. I knew that SPF would be a great learning experience. Not just to help other people but to make new friends who share the same interests as me. SPF was such an amazing opportunity to help fellow peers, I am very glad to have joined. Also if it weren't for SPF, I wouldn't have known how dangerous and bad vaping is for the body.

My favorite project was making the poster on Canva to warn kids about vaping and smoking. I liked this project because I liked that I was able to be creative while making the poster. The posters message was to quit vaping/smoking and to using any of the available websites to get help. It also told users they are not alone in the fight to stop. Something I learned by being a SPF leader is that it requires a lot of effort and strength to bring change but after I finished all the hard work it did will pay off in the end. I want people to remember that even something as little as a poster could inspire someone to stop. I also want people to know that they can bring change too.

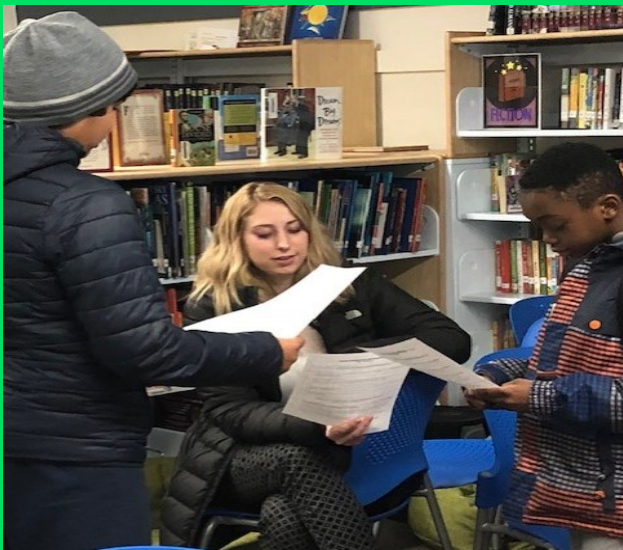
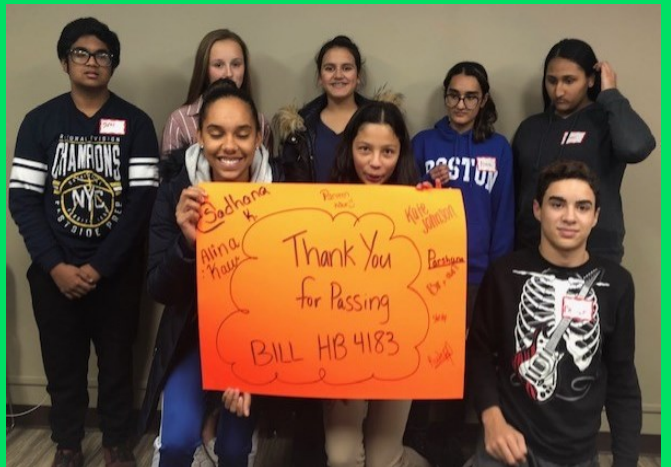
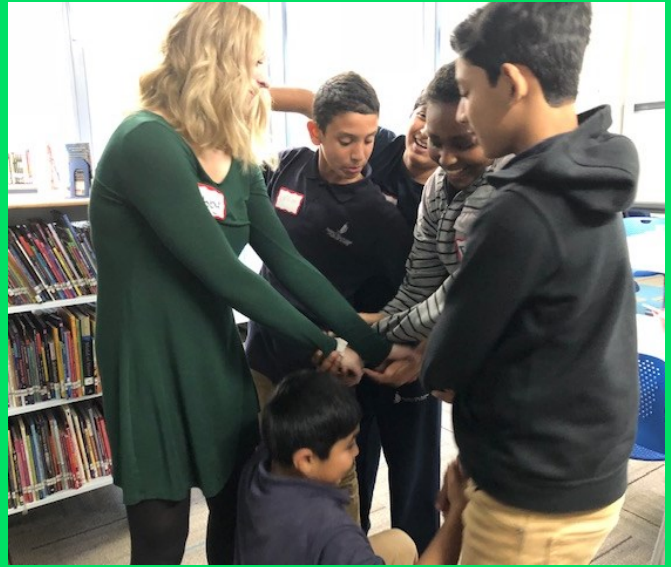
Rute Pires, SPF100 Youth Leader

My name is Rute, I'm in 11th grade at Somerville High School. I joined SPF because I thought it would be a great opportunity for me to learn and explore different perspectives and be part of something that can be helpful to strengthen a better community. Some of my favorite projects throughout the program was when had the chance to share the survey that middle schoolers, It was very interesting to see how people were surprised with the results. I also loved to participate in the media part of the program because it was very fun to learn and use different apps that I'd never used before. I was also very exciting to participate in videos to raise awareness towards our community issues.

Being part of the SPF was an great experience for me and one thing that I've learn from it was the fact that being an SPF leader is step out for your community and help youths be a better version of themselves, be able to see and help others that are struggling with substances use or any others problems. One thing I want people to learn about our work is that we do it with passion and responsibility to see a positive Somerville community, where youths act and share information out there to pursue and change their point of view.



SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES IN ACTION!





SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES UPDATES



SPF Leader Reflections

Shray Vahisht, SPF100 Youth Leader

My name is Shray Vashisht, I am a 10th grader at Somerville High School. I joined the SPF 100 program because I wanted to understand, more in depth, about substance abuse and ways to stop it. As a leader, I wanted to become more confident with myself and grow my leadership skills. In the past, I have seen others get negatively impacted due to these harmful substances. This opportunity provided me a chance to stop youth from consuming harmful substances in a positive way. I also joined because I wanted to make some sort of difference in the youth community. By being part of this SPF 100 group, I feel like I can actually accomplish something!

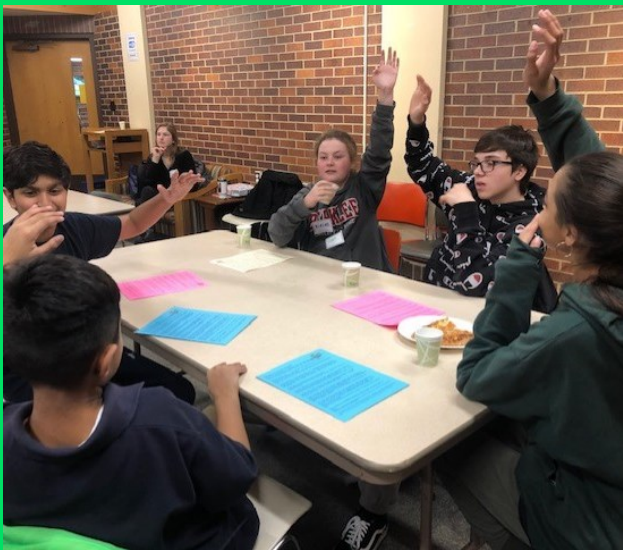
During the program, my favorite project was the Sticker Shock. I feel like I actually learned a lot from this experience. I got to speak with the store employees and spoke about who we are, what we are trying to do, and how people can benefit from the work we are doing. Sticker Shock was the first event we did and it really made me feel like I was making a difference in the community. By putting stickers on paper bags and multi packs of beer we helped avoid the risks of the youth exploiting adults as a source of alcohol. This project helped stop underage alcohol use and considering my experience with others using alcohol it really made me feel like a youth leader.

Natalia Mohamed, SPFJR. Youth Leader

I am Natalia Mohamed and I'm a 7th grader the Arthur D. Healey School. I became an SPFjr youth worker based on seeing how substance abuse can completely alter a person's life and being able to prevent that early on is truly an honor. Personally, I enjoyed the 84 Movement's Youth Summit most. By being an SPFJR Leader, I learned many different things and I got to speak quite a lot on behalf of things that I am most passionate about. Since this is my first job, SPFJR has taught me responsibility and time management. I want people to remember that when you go into something like SPFJR it should be for the reason that you want to help create change and are determined to make a change in not only your life but your community.



SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES IN ACTION!





SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES UPDATES



SPF Leader Reflections

Emily Ivy, SPFJR. Youth Leader

My name is Emily and I'm in the 8th grade at the West Somerville Neighborhood School. I joined SPF because I wanted to help teens overcome their addiction to vaping and spread awareness. One of my favorite projects was the sticker shock project because we got to put stickers on boxes of beer and bags telling adults to not give people under the age of 21 alcohol. While I was here in SPF, I learned that many teens actually drink or vape because of a parent or relative. I want people to remember that vapes, cigarettes or drinking alcohol can really harm your body even if you think it won't.

Haadi Jilla, SPFJR. PHA Youth Leader

I am Haadi Jilla. I go to the school Prospect Hill Academy. I joined SPF Jr. because of the effects that vaping and substance use and what they can do to the people that use it daily. My favorite project that I participated in was the YRBS event. The YRBS event's message was in a survey that middle and high school students took to see the percentages. Something I learned from being a SPF leader is, that you don't have to be adult to make a difference. One thing I want people to know about my work is, that helping a small community can help a large amount of people.

Elnathan Daniel, SPFJR. PHA Youth Leader

My name is Elnathan Daniel and I am a 6th grader at Prospect Hill Academy. I joined SPF because I wanted to learn the dangers of smoking and alcohol and I wanted to help people to stop using them. One of my favorite projects was Sticker Shock because it put out the message to people that it is illegal for people to give alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. Something I learned from being an SPF Leader was that if you put in an effort and try, you can always help people. One thing that I want people to remember is that you can help make a change in your community no matter who you are or how old you are.



SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES UPDATES



Congratulations to Ishivita Bali for her 84.org Statewide Leadership Award and Citation from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for her 7 years of dedication to youth substance use prevention through her work with SPF/SCAP!

Link to Speech Video: <https://bit.ly/2MnSdun>



SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES UPDATES



Thank You Message from Ishivita

I am deeply honored to receive this state citation award in recognition of my leadership and initiative in Somerville Positive Forces.

I have been a SPF Youth Leader since middle school. I was a SPF Jr. member through 6th to 8th grade and I have been a SPF100 member since 9th grade. I chose to join because I sought to lead change in my community and learn more about the prevention efforts that can be taken to educate and help youth make positive choices and avoid substance abuse. I saw a need for more youth to be conscious and aware of the risks associated with substance abuse and of the protective factors that can help youth avoid substances. I knew that through SPF, I would be able to help address this need and, as a result, help to make positive change in my community. I am proud and I am privileged to dedicate my time to be able to promote student wellness through fun campaigns and positive peer messaging; and address issues related to underage drinking, substance abuse, and tobacco use, including bullying and mental health wellness.

I want to thank my SCAP Program Director, Lovelee Heller-Bottari, because she has been a positive mentor to me since I was in SPF JR, and everyone in SPF because you always motivated me each week to work even harder to impact positive change in our community.

My experience in SPF has had such a positive impact on my personal growth and development. SPF has been able to shape my self-awareness and understanding of community issues and SPF has been able to promote my courage and character. I know that in college and beyond, I will be able to apply the knowledge and skill that I've gained through SPF to contribute to positive change.

Thank you!

- Ishivita Bali, SPF Youth Leader



SOMERVILLE POSITIVE FORCES UPDATES



Dear MA Legislators,

Thank you for protecting youth with the Act Modernizing Tobacco for Massachusetts. Tobacco and e-cigarettes has become a real issue to youth and has a big issue for us. Restricting flavors and removing tobacco products from stores where youth frequent are the most effective ways to reduce youth use. Thank you!

SPF Youth Leaders

**THANK YOU TO OUR
SPF PARTNERS!**

**THE84.ORG
SCATV
SPARK SHARE
ZEPTIVE**

*WITH OUR MOST SINCERE
GRATITUDE!
SPF YOUTH LEADERS*

For more information about SPF 100 and SPF Jr.

Please contact Lovelee Heller-Bottari at lheller@somervillema.gov



Six City Tobacco Updates

The Modernizing Tobacco Control Act will go into full effect June 1, 2020.

- Vape products will have a 75% sales tax.
- Fines for violations of either sale to a minor or sale of flavored products will be \$ 1,000.00 for a first offense; \$2,000.00 for a second offense and a 7 day suspension of permit to sell; and for a 3rd offense, a \$5,000.00 fine and suspension of permit for 30 days.
- Stores can no longer advertise what they cannot sell. They also can't have advertisements for nicotine products that contain celebrities, cartoons, or similar endorsements and are required to have signs that speak to the dangers of nicotine products.
- Menthol products are now considered flavored products, and all flavored products will be restricted to on site consumption at smoking bars. Menthol makes it easier to inhale harsh tobacco products.
- MassHealth will now offer nicotine cessation aids at no cost, including no copays!

Feel free to call Bonny Carroll at (617) 625-6600, x 4318, if you have any questions.



INTERESTING READS



Opioid Addiction is “a disease of isolation”, so pandemic puts recovery at risk.

- <https://bit.ly/opioid-addiction-during-isolation>

Juul bought ad space on Nickelodeon and Cartoon Network, lawsuit claims.

- <https://bit.ly/JUUL-ads-targeting-youth>

The Class of 2020 “could have been anything”.

- <https://bit.ly/classof2020addiction>

Denver turned marijuana info money for after-school programs. Other cities are taking note.

- <https://bit.ly/Denverafterschoolfunding>

Chinatown groups grapple with gambling addiction.

- <https://bit.ly/chinatown-gambling-addiction>

“We’re not alone”- ‘Sesame Street’ tackles addiction crisis.

- <https://bit.ly/sesame-street-tackles-addiction>



CONTACT US



**SOMERVILLE CARES
ABOUT PREVENTION**

Together we can make a difference

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Writer

Do you have a literary knack?

Help SCAP write articles, interest pieces, or editorials for the SCAP newsletter or local newspapers. Time commitment varies depending on length of writing sample.

Youth In Action Project Participant

Adult volunteers are partnered with youth and law enforcement in efforts to promote zero tolerance enforcement, legislative advocacy and eliminate the current retail and social availability of alcohol for minors via the various YIA programs.

Current volunteer opportunities are available with the Compliance Checks, Shoulder Tap Surveys, & Sticker Shock.

Somerville Positive Forces (SPF)

Now accepting SPF 100 and SPF Jr. applications for the 2020-2021 school year! For more details, please email lheller@somervillema.gov.

GET INVOLVED!



SCAP Community Activist

Friendly, outgoing volunteers are needed to reach out to residents, storekeepers, non-profit groups, community groups, etc. to promote the SCAP mission and to encourage involvement. Duties may include distributing informational or upcoming event fliers, and making phone calls to various businesses and residents. Variable hours are available.

Please visit us at:

- www.somervillema.gov/PreventionServices
- [Facebook.com/SomervilleCares](https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCares)
- [Instagram @somervilleprevention](https://www.instagram.com/somervilleprevention)