



State Policies to Support Family-Focused Interventions  
to Prevent Substance Use Disorders in Adolescence:  
**A Population-Level, Systems-Level, Prevention-Focused Perspective**

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**PoP Health**  
*Pursuit of Public Health*





## Put down Single-person solutions

Efforts to change  
individuals

Over-the-fact treatments

## Pick up Population-level Solutions

Efforts to change  
systems

Prevention

# Applying the Lens to Preventing Adolescent Substance Use

## Population-level



Role of schools and other key settings

## Systems-level



Family engagement in child-serving systems

## Prevention-focused



Start younger – and sustain through adolescence

# Role of Schools and Other Key Settings



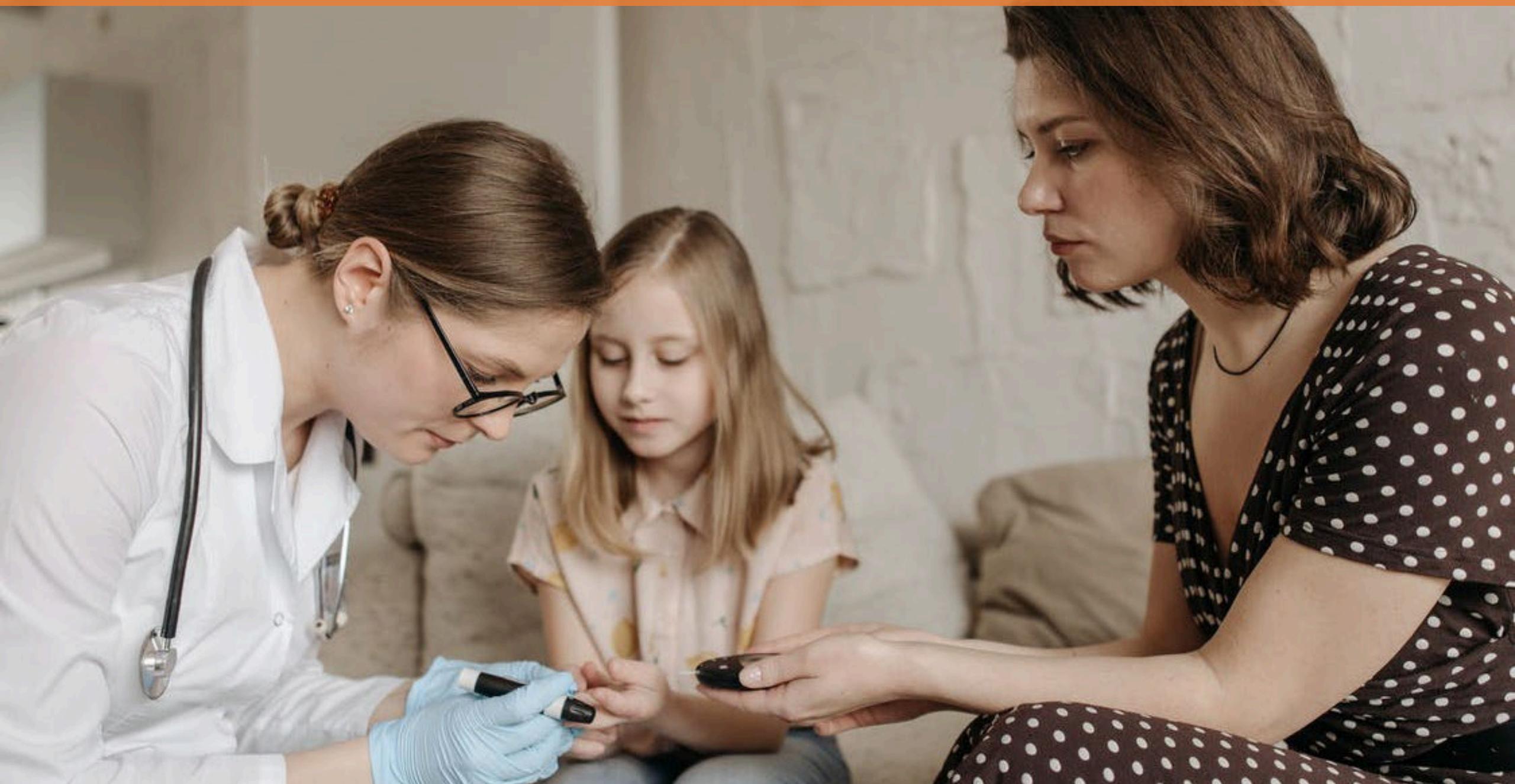
**70 – 80% of children receiving mental health support receive it in **SCHOOL****

Rones, M., & Hoagwood, K. (2000). School-based mental health services: A research review. *Clinical Child and Family Psychology Review*, 3(4), 223-241. <https://doi.org/10.1023/a:1026425104386>

# Role of Schools and Other Key Settings



# Family Engagement in Child-Serving Systems



# Start Younger – and Sustain Support through Adolescence



# Where We Should Focus

**Population-level**



**Role of schools and other key settings**

**Systems-level**



**Family engagement in child-serving systems**

**Prevention-focused**

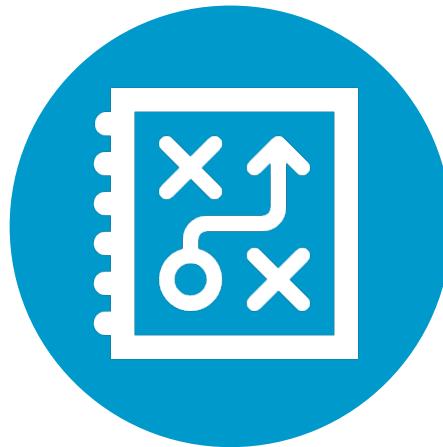


**Start younger – and sustain through adolescence**

# The Role of State Policy



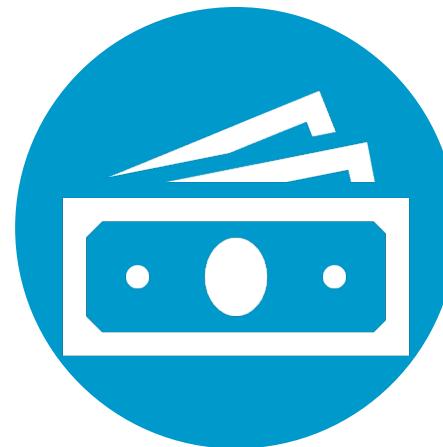
**Data Collection &  
Sharing**



**Technical  
Assistance**



**Collaboration &  
Community Ownership**



**Sufficient, Flexible,  
Coordinated  
Financing**



**Social  
Policies**

# Collaboration & Community Ownership



*States can...*

**Directly invest** in partnership development, implementation, maintenance

**Require backbone support**

Engage in and fund/require **participatory action research**

**Build accountability to communities** into their work



**Coordinate across state agencies**

# Data Collection and Sharing



**Allegheny County  
Data Warehouse**

*States can...*

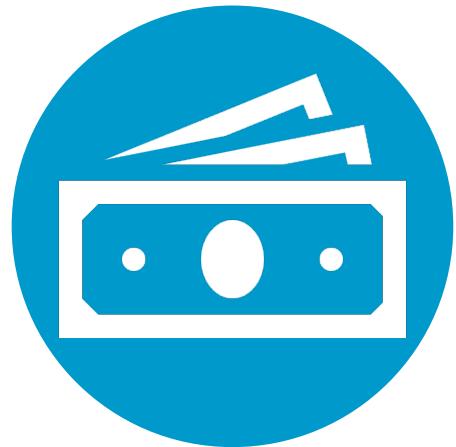
**Collect data and establish common measures (e.g., family-level risk/protective factors, subcounty/subpopulation analyses)**

**Make data publicly available and accessible**

**Enable data sharing across agencies and sectors**

**Engage in and require rigorous evaluation**

# Sufficient, Flexible, Coordinated Financing



**Virginia Children's  
Services Act**

*States can...*

**Directly invest** in substance use prevention strategies

**Fully leverage existing policies**, including Medicaid and Family First Prevention Services Act

Tap into **non-traditional funding mechanisms**

Enable **braiding and blending** of funding

# Sufficient, Flexible, Coordinated Financing



2. CSA's Local Family Assessment & Planning Team (FAPT) works with Jean and John to develop one individualized plan of services.



3. A case manager helps Jean and John obtain the services in the FAPT's plan, which are paid for by the Community Policy and Management Team (CPMT) from a variety of sources.



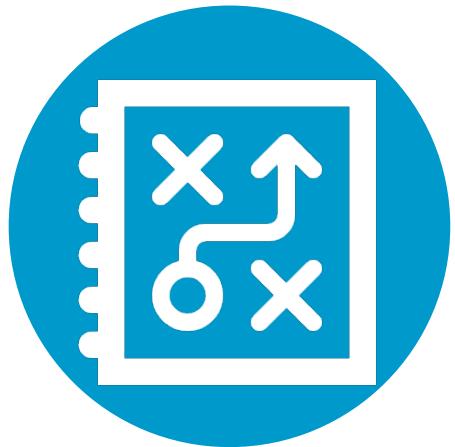
Jean & John's Plan of Services from CSA			
GOALS	SERVICES	PAID FOR BY	
EDUCATION	Educate John at grade level and manage behavior issues	Special education placement	CSA Pool Funds
PHYSICAL HEALTHCARE	Manage Jean's diabetes and John's asthma for success at work and school	Primary and preventive care	Medicaid/CHIP (FAMIS)
MENTAL & BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE	Control Jean's depression and help her stay sober	Behavioral health care	Medicaid/CHIP (FAMIS)
HOUSING	Help John overcome behavioral/emotional issues	Applied behavioral analysis; yoga	CSA Pool Funds
TRANSPORTATION	Provide a stable home; cook healthy meals	Emergency rent support	CSA Pool Funds
FOOD	Reliable transportation to and from work, school, and appointments	Car repair	CSA Pool Funds
	Cook healthy meals at home, refrigerate medication	Food assistance/refrigerator repair	Social service programs (SNAP)/ CSA Pool Funds

**NASHP**  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF STATE HEALTH POLICY

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# Technical Assistance

*States can...*



**EPIS**

EVIDENCE-BASED PREVENTION  
AND INTERVENTION SUPPORT

- Establish a **state-level technical assistance center** that:
  - Supports prevention by connecting research, policy, and practice
  - Promotes high-quality implementation and sustainability
  - Facilitates dissemination and sharing of best practices
  - Supports continuous improvement of locally-developed programs

# Social Policies



*States can...*

Advance policies directly related to mental health and substance use:

- Expanding Medicaid and strengthening coverage and parity
- Investing in expanding the behavioral health workforce
- Making alcohol/drugs harder for adolescents to access

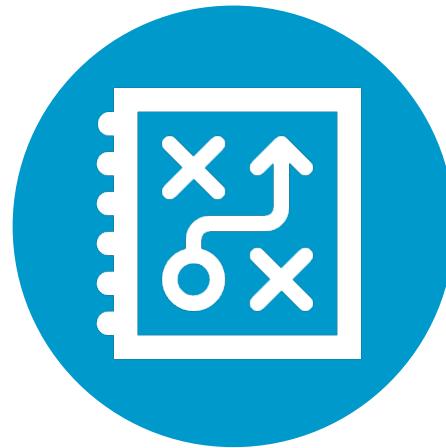
Advance broader social policies including in the areas of:

- Preventing bullying and school violence
- Avoiding school expulsions and suspensions
- Reducing incarceration
- Bolstering social support and connectedness
- Providing economic assistance to low-income families

# The Role of State Policy



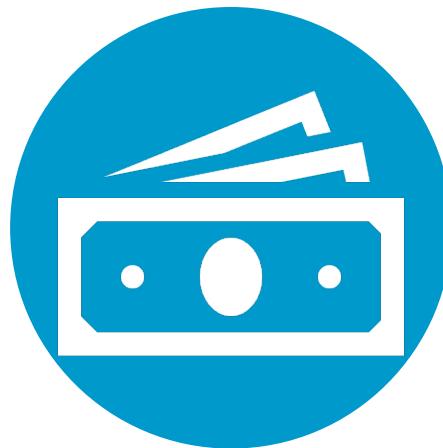
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**Technical  
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**Flexible, Coordinated  
Financing**



**Social  
Policies**

# To What End?

**Population-level**



**Role of schools and other key settings**

**Systems-level**



**Family engagement in child-serving systems**

**Prevention-focused**



**Start younger – and sustain through adolescence**

# Thank You



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