



For Immediate Release
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Franklin Health Department and Volition Franklin® Awarded Continuation of the Drug Free Communities Grant

Franklin, WI – The City of Franklin Health Department and Volition Franklin have been awarded a Drug Free Communities (DFC) Grant. The White House’s Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced September 21, 2021, of the competitive \$625,000 award for the group’s continued substance misuse prevention efforts within the Franklin community.

“To receive this funding means support and recognition from those leading the charge for substance misuse prevention within our Nation”, states Coalition Coordinator Ellen Henry. Volition Franklin has a long history of prevention efforts in the Franklin community. Since forming as a group in 2010, the group has evolved from a time of a few passionate members completing grassroot efforts and intermittent projects, to constant presence in the Franklin community, spanning across all sectors, and a powerful force for change.

“Volition Franklin’s robust membership, innovative projects, and strong mission of empowering youth to make healthy choices has led to continued success and growth”, states Franklin Health Department Public Health Specialist Lauren Gottlieb. “Working alongside the coalition’s leadership and community volunteers is exciting and their work and expertise is an essential resource to have locally”.

Alderman Mike Barber, Board of Health and Volition Franklin member, adds “the coalition engages youth to be empowered, and empower their peers with the tools to make healthy, informed choices - moving away from a “just say no message” and on to one of positive empowerment. The group’s work is a strong asset to our entire community”.

The coalition has made the commitment to generate \$125,000 annually to match the \$125,000 grant award, resulting in the Franklin community receiving \$1.25 million for prevention for the next five years.

Volition Franklin uses evidence-based strategies to create a healthy community, supportive of healthy lifestyles, free of substance misuse. Upcoming coalition events, prevention information, and ways to get involved, can be found at www.volitionfranklin.org.

For additional information related to this release, please contact the Franklin Health Department at 414-425-9101.

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