There are 160 NYS OASAS Prevention Providers implementing evidence-based programs (EBPs) and practices across every county in New York State. NYS OASAS Providers implement a minimum of 60% EBPs that are designed to target community, family and individual specific risk and protective factors across the lifespan. NYS OASAS Providers deliver EBPs to youth 5-18 years.

Who are prevention providers and what do we do?

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Individuals that use substances often begin doing so in adolescence, often with background and experiences that have primed conditions for doing so (NIDA).

- 25% of students may become afflicted with Substance Use Disorder (SUD) by age 18.
- 90% of addictions begin before the age of 18.
- 41.2% of youth ages 12 and older who had a substance use disorder also had a co-occurring mental illness.

If effective prevention programs were implemented nationwide, substance abuse initiation would decline for 1.5 million youth and be delayed for 2 years on average. In 2003, an estimated:

- 8% fewer youth ages 13 to 15 would not have engaged in binge drinking.
- 45.8% fewer youth would not have used cocaine.
- 11.5% fewer youth would not have used marijuana.
- 10.7% fewer youth would not have smoked regularly.

EBPs have statistically significant effects on mental health outcomes and substance use prevention outcomes. Research shows that for each dollar invested in prevention, a savings of up to $10 in treatment for alcohol or other substance abuse can be seen.