



## PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Bristol Eliminating Substance Use Together (BEST) Hosts National Prevention Week Activities May 9<sup>th</sup>- May 14<sup>th</sup>**

Bristol, CT – [May 5, 2022] – Bristol Eliminating Substance Use Together (BEST) will host National Prevention Week (NPW) Activities/Events from May 9<sup>th</sup> the 14<sup>th</sup>. National Prevention Week is an annual health observance dedicated to increasing public awareness and action around substance use prevention and the promotion of positive mental health. This is the second year BEST is hosting activities for youth and community members to engage in all week long.

NPW aims to involve the community in raising awareness for substance use and health issues by implementing prevention strategies and showcasing the effectiveness of evidence-based prevention programs. NPW helps foster partnerships and collaborations with federal agencies and national organizations dedicated to improving public health and to promote and disseminate quality substance use prevention and mental health promotion resources and publications.

#### National Prevention Week Activities and Events:

- **Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> - Mobile Pop Up Narcan Training in the Park**
  - Community members 18+ are invited to join BEST for Narcan Training in the parks
    - 9:00 - 9:45 am – Brackett Park
    - 10:00 - 10:45 am – Rockwell Park
- **Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> - Mental Health and Substance use Prevention Fair at Eastern High School**
  - BEST will be preventing substance use and promoting mental health among Bristol Eastern High school students.
- **Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> - Suicide Prevention and Awareness Information**
  - Visit @best\_coalition on Instagram to help spread the message and show support.
- **Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> - Teen Night - Movie Night**
  - 5:00 - 7:30 pm at BPRYCS Main Offices located 51 High St.
  - Register your teen at [www.BristolRec.com](http://www.BristolRec.com)
- **Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> - Prevention is Everywhere**
  - BEST will share prevention stories on Instagram (@best\_coalition) using #MyPreventionStory.
  - If you have an interest in participating please send Jenelle Howard, best coordinator, a statement or video about your prevention story to [jenellehoward@bristolct.gov](mailto:jenellehoward@bristolct.gov).
- **Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> – Knockout Stigma Basketball Tournament at the Bristol Sports Armory**
  - Registration on [bristolrec.com](http://bristolrec.com) is required for participation in the tournament.
  - Guests are more than welcome to attend and enjoy the tournament.

“Prevention is important in the Bristol community and BEST will not be silent about it. We want to make an impactful change in the lives of children and families in Bristol,” shared BEST Coordinator Jenelle Howard. “The Bristol community is invited to join in on each day of National Prevention Week in a show of support. If interested, BEST encourages those with a prevention story they’d like to share to reach out so that they may do so,” Howard continued.



For more information about National Prevention Week activities, please visit [www.BristolRec.com](http://www.BristolRec.com) or reach to Jenelle Howard at [Jenellehoward@bristolct.gov](mailto:Jenellehoward@bristolct.gov).

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***About the City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services***

It is the mission of the City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services (BPRYCS) to deliver high-quality services and facilities that enhance the community's quality of life, meet the diverse needs of all citizens, and build a sustainable future.

***Media Inquiries:***

*Erica Benoit*

*Community Engagement Coordinator*

*(860) 584 - 6160*

*[Ericabenoit@bristolct.gov](mailto:Ericabenoit@bristolct.gov)*

*Website: [www.BristolRec.com](http://www.BristolRec.com)*