

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

MARY LOU EMERSON, DIRECTOR • (801) 538-1921 • <https://justice.utah.gov/usaav/>

## USA AV+ Council Mission and Duties

The mission of the Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory (USA AV+) Council is to create and coordinate a comprehensive strategy to eliminate substance use and mental health disorders throughout Utah.

The Council's statutory duties (§63M-7-301 through 306) are to:

- Provide leadership and generate unity for Utah's ongoing efforts to reduce and eliminate the impact of substance use and mental health disorders in Utah through a comprehensive and evidence-based prevention, treatment, and justice strategy;
- Recommend and coordinate the creation, dissemination, and implementation of statewide policies to address substance use and mental health disorders;
- Facilitate planning for a balanced continuum of substance use and mental health disorder prevention, treatment, and justice services;
- Promote collaboration and mutually beneficial public and private partnerships;
- Analyze and provide an objective assessment of all proposed legislation concerning substance use, mental health, and related issues;
- Oversee the implementation and evaluation of Utah's Drug-related Offenses Reform Act (DORA);
- Monitor the use of beer tax funds annually distributed to municipalities and counties for purposes of alcohol- and substance abuse-related law enforcement, prevention, treatment, detection, prosecution, and control to ensure compliance with the statute (§32B-2-404 and 405);
- Oversee Utah's Underage Drinking Prevention Media Campaign, ParentsEmpowered.org (§32B-2-306); and
- Report recommendations annually to the Governor, Legislature, Judicial Council, and Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice.

## USA AV+ 2017 Legislative Priorities



The 2017 Utah Legislature passed the following USA AV+ priority bills:

**H.B. 50 – Opioid Prescribing Regulations**, by Rep. Raymond Ward. This bill limits prescriptions for Schedule II and Schedule III opiates for acute conditions to 7 days, with exceptions (e.g., 30-day supply for post-surgical, chronic conditions); and requires a prescriber to check the Controlled Substance Database when prescribing a Schedule II or Schedule III opioid to a patient for the first time, with exceptions (e.g., ≤ 3-day supply, post-surgical, prescriber knows the patient's history).

**H.B. 66 – Opiate Overdose Response Act Amendments**, by Rep. Carol Spackman Moss. This bill clarifies that overdose outreach

providers and persons other than health care facilities/providers are not civilly liable when administering an opiate antagonist (Naloxone/Narcan®) in good faith to a person believed to be experiencing an opiate-related drug overdose event; and clarifies that an overdose outreach provider may furnish an opiate antagonist to another opiate outreach provider.

**H.B. 90 – Insurance Opioid Regulations**, by Rep. Raymond Ward. This bill authorizes a health insurer that provides prescription drug coverage to enact a policy to minimize the risk of opioid addiction and overdose from: chronic co-prescription of opioids with benzodiazepines and other sedating substances, prescription of very high dose opioids in the primary care setting, and the inadvertent transition of short-term opioids for an acute injury into long-term opioid dependence; and authorizes a health insurer that provides prescription drug

coverage to enact policies to facilitate: non-narcotic treatment alternatives for patients who have chronic pain; and medication-assisted treatment for patients who have opioid dependence disorder.

**S.B. 213 – Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council**, by Sen. Jerry Stevenson. This bill adds a representative of private service providers that serve youth with substance use disorders or mental health disorders as a voting member of the Council.

The following priority bill did not pass, but may be addressed again in the 2018 Legislative Session.

**H.B. 375 – Asset Forfeiture Grants Amendments**, by Rep. Eric Hutchings. This bill amends the authorized purposes of the State Asset Forfeiture Grant Program funds to include support for substance use disorder treatment programs.

## Utah's Drug-related Offenses Reform Act (DORA)

It is estimated by the close of FY 2018, over 5,000 individuals will have received DORA-funded substance use disorder treatment and intensive correctional supervision services.

During 2017, DORA treatment and supervision providers continued their participation in the "Correctional Program Checklist," or CPC, an intensive assessment and quality improvement process designed to determine how current interventions are being operationalized and whether or not they adhere to evidence-based practices. The CPC was conducted by the University of Utah Criminal Justice Center and completed during the summer of 2017.

The CPC assessed both strengths and needs for improvement across five DORA program domains: 1) Program Leadership and Development; 2) Staff Characteristics; 3) Offender Assessment; 4) Treatment Characteristics; and 5) Quality Assurance. While DORA programs scored relatively high in the Program Leadership and Development and Staff Characteristics domains, areas for improvement were identified for the other domains.

The USAAV+ DORA Oversight Committee is currently working with DORA providers to develop and implement quality improvement plans and provide technical assistance in response to the findings generated by the CPC.



DORA GOAL

**To reduce the incidence of substance use disorders, drug-related crime, and the associated consequences for individuals, families, and communities throughout Utah.**

DORA Objectives

**Determine an individual's specific criminogenic risk and substance use disorder treatment needs as early as possible in the judicial process;**

**Expand substance use disorder treatment resources for individuals under corrections supervision in the community;**

**Provide more intensive supervision by the Utah Department of Corrections; and**

**Integrate substance use disorder treatment and correctional supervision in a collaborative approach to managing individuals on probation and parole.**

## Underage Drinking Prevention Campaign



The USAAV+ Council provided oversight for Utah's evidence-based ParentsEmpowered Underage Drinking Prevention Media Campaign during 2017. This award winning campaign is funded by the Utah Legislature through the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, and entered its twelfth year on July 1 with new TV, radio, print and social media components. The USAAV+ Underage Drinking Prevention Workgroup meets regularly to guide the development of campaign materials.

With its strong foundation of research showing **parental disapproval is the #1 reason youth choose not to drink**, ParentsEmpowered focuses on providing parents and other influential adults with information about the harmful effects of alcohol on the developing teen brain, along with proven skills for preventing underage alcohol use, including **BONDING** with children through daily, positive

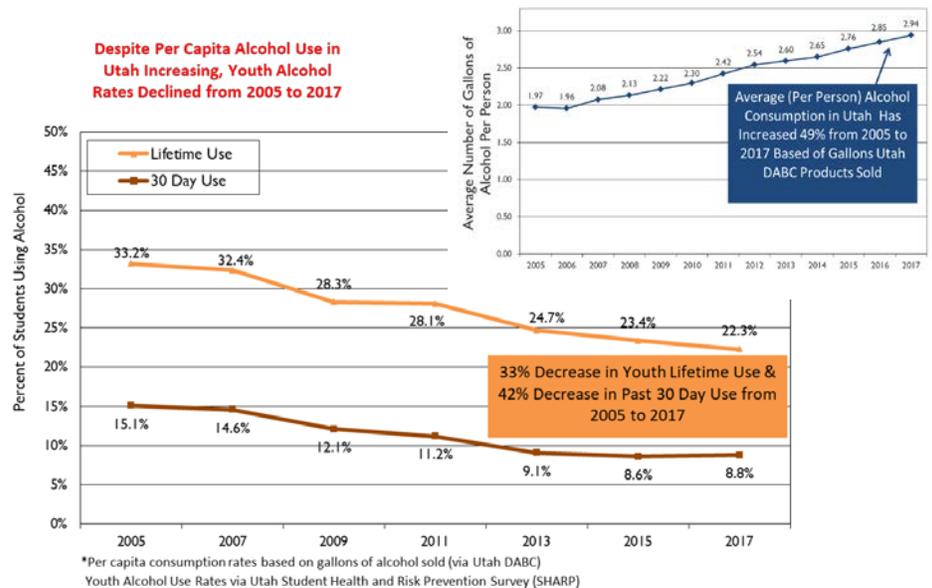
communication and interaction; setting clear **BOUNDARIES** and limitations, including rules about underage drinking; and **MONITORING** children's activities by asking direct questions and ensuring their environment is alcohol-free.

The figure below shows youth underage drinking in Utah, both lifetime and past 30-day use, have



continued to decline steadily since the inception of ParentsEmpowered in 2006, despite increasing per capita alcohol consumption among Utahns.

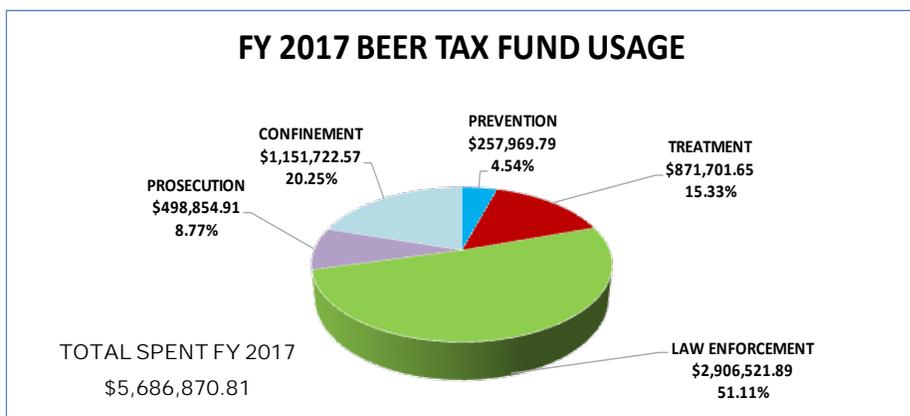
### Youth Alcohol Use Trends (Grades 8, 10 & 12 Combined) vs. Per Capita Alcohol Consumption in Utah (2005-2017)



## FY 2017 Beer Tax Funds

The USAAV+ Council monitors the use of beer tax monies appropriated annually by the Utah State Tax Commission to Utah's municipalities and counties from the **Alcoholic Beverage and Substance Abuse Enforcement and Treatment Restricted Account** for alcohol- and drug-related activities (§32B-4-4, Utah Code).

The figure on the right shows how the FY 2017 appropriation of \$5,597,400 was utilized.



*Note:* The amounts expended do not add up to the total appropriation due to unexpended funds carried over to FY 2017 and Tax Commission distribution fees.

## 2017 USAAV+ Governor's Awards



The USAAV+ Council annually honors those who have made outstanding contributions to Utah's efforts to eliminate substance use and mental health disorders and their adverse consequences. In 2017, the Council recognized two individuals whose leadership, generosity, and willingness to partner with state agencies are addressing Utah's opioid crisis in a way that is educating Utahns and preventing the tragedy of overdose deaths.

**Frances Reagan Copinga**, Managing Director for Reagan Outdoor Advertising, received the 2017 USAAV+ Governor's Award in recognition of her personal dedication, professional expertise, and generous contributions to the creation and implementation of the **Naloxone Saves Billboard Campaign**, a public awareness partnership that is saving lives.



From left to right: USAAV+ Vice Chair Rollin Cook, Dr. Jennifer Plumb, **Frances Reagan Copinga**, Celeste Cecchini, USAAV+ Chair Camille Anthony, and USAAV+ Director Mary Lou Emerson

**Heroin Kills**  
**NALOXONE SAVES. GET IT.**  
 UtahNaloxone.org

**Heroin. Pills. It All Kills.**  
**NALOXONE SAVES. GET IT.**  
 UtahNaloxone.org

**Greg Jones**, Director of Pharmacy for Harmons and Chair of the Utah Board of Pharmacy, received the 2017 USAAV+ Governor's Award in recognition of his exceptional leadership and public service to plan, implement, and champion Utah's first annual **Talk to Your Pharmacist Month Campaign** to encourage pharmacists to take an active role in addressing Utah's opioid crisis.



From left to right: USAAV+ Vice Chair Rollin Cook, Sepideh Daeery, **Greg Jones**, USAAV+ Chair Camille Anthony, and USAAV+ Director Mary Lou Emerson

## 2017 Utah Substance Use and Mental Health Advisory Council Members

**S. Camille Anthony, CHAIR**

*Citizen Representative*

**Rollin Cook, VICE CHAIR**

*Utah Department of Corrections*

**Patrick Anderson**

*Criminal Defense Attorney*

**Pat Bird**

*Representative of Prevention Professionals*

**Judge James Blanch**

*District Court Drug Court Judge*

**Heather Borski**

*Utah Department of Health*

**Dr. Karen Buchi**

*Chair, Drug Endangered Children Committee*

**Jeffrey Buhman**

*Prosecutor*

**Susan Burke**

*Utah Division of Juvenile Justice Services*

**Daniel Burton**

*Utah Attorney General's Office*

**Dennis Cecchini**

*Resident Personally Affected by a Substance Use or Mental Health Disorder*

**Santiago Cortez**

*Chair, Treatment Committee*

**Commissioner Bill Cox**

*Elected County Official*

**Dr. Mark Foote**

*Representative of Physical Health Care Field*

**Valerie Fritz**

*Chair, Utah Behavioral Health Planning and Advisory Committee*

**Ron Gordon**

*Utah Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice*

**Colonel Gary Harter**

*Military Service Member/Veteran*

**Brent Kelsey**

*Chair, Recovery Residences Committee*

**Judge Mary Manley**

*Juvenile Court Drug Court Judge*

**Mary Jo McMillen**

*Statewide Advocacy Organization for Recovery from Substance Use Disorders*

**Dr. Brian Miller**

*Representative of Treatment Professionals*

**Richard Nance**

*Chair, DORA Oversight Committee*

**Brent Platt**

*Utah Division of Child and Family Services*

**Denise Porter**

*Utah Board of Pardons and Parole*

**Representative Paul Ray**

*Utah House of Representatives*

**Scott Reed**

*Chair, Justice Committee*

**Chief Tom Ross**

*Representative of Local Law Enforcement Agencies*

**Lynette Schiess**

*Utah State Board of Education*

**Rick Schwermer**

*State Court Administrator*

**Mayor JoAnn Seghini**

*Utah League of Cities and Towns*

**Shirlee Silversmith**

*Utah Division of Indian Affairs*

**Commissioner Keith Squires**

*Utah Department of Public Safety*

**Senator Jerry Stevenson**

*Utah State Senate*

**Doug Thomas**

*Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health*

**Rob Timmerman**

*Chair, Utah Prevention Advisory Committee*

**Judge Vernice Trease**

*District Court Mental Health Court Judge*

**Hong Vu**

*Office of Multicultural Affairs*

**Carlene Walker**

*Chair, DUI Committee*

**Rob Wesemann**

*Statewide Advocacy Organization for Recovery from Mental Illness*

**Christina Zidow**

*Representative of Youth Services Providers*

**USAAV+ Council Staff**

Mary Lou Emerson, Director

Collett Litchard, Beer Tax Funds Manager

Monica Taylor, Administrative Assistant