

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

July 17, 2020

Debra Houry, MD, MPH
Director, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road,
Atlanta, GA 30329

RE: Town of Colchester Youth FIRST Coalition DFC Proposal

Dear Director Houry:

We write to you today in strong support for the Town of Colchester Youth FIRST Coalition's proposal to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the Fiscal Year 2020 Drug Free Communities Support program. The Colchester Youth FIRST Coalition is seeking this funding to establish and strengthen community collaboration in support of local efforts to prevent youth substance use disorder.


The Colchester Youth FIRST Coalition was established with the goal of addressing local adolescent substance use disorder and identifying effective prevention strategies. Comprised of members of the local education, faith, business, law enforcement and youth communities, this coalition is a town-wide movement with a mission to build happier and healthier lives and futures for their youth. This funding will provide \$625,000 to aid the coalition in building upon an already well-developed structure of support and education, furthering the resources available to the young people of Colchester.

We believe that initiatives like this are a crucial element in the fight against substance use disorder in Connecticut and the efficacy of community-led efforts has been demonstrated already by similar successful projects. We support the Town of Colchester Youth FIRST Coalition's request for funding for this program to allow the Coalition to continue working on behalf of the Colchester community. We request your full and fair consideration of their application.

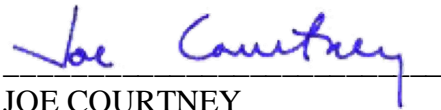
Sincerely,



RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
United States Senate



CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
United States Senate



JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress

CC:

Helen Hernandez, Administrator
Drug Free Communities Support Program
Office of National Drug Control Policy
Executive Office of the President
Washington, DC 20503

Grant Baldwin, PhD, MPH
Director, Division of Overdose Prevention
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, Atlanta, GA 30329