



**COLORADO**

# *Colorado's Prevention Efforts*

Presentation to the Substance Abuse Trends and Response Task Force

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**COLORADO**  
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Department of Human Services



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment





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# Making the Wise Investment

Statewide Needs Assessment of Primary Prevention for Substance Abuse

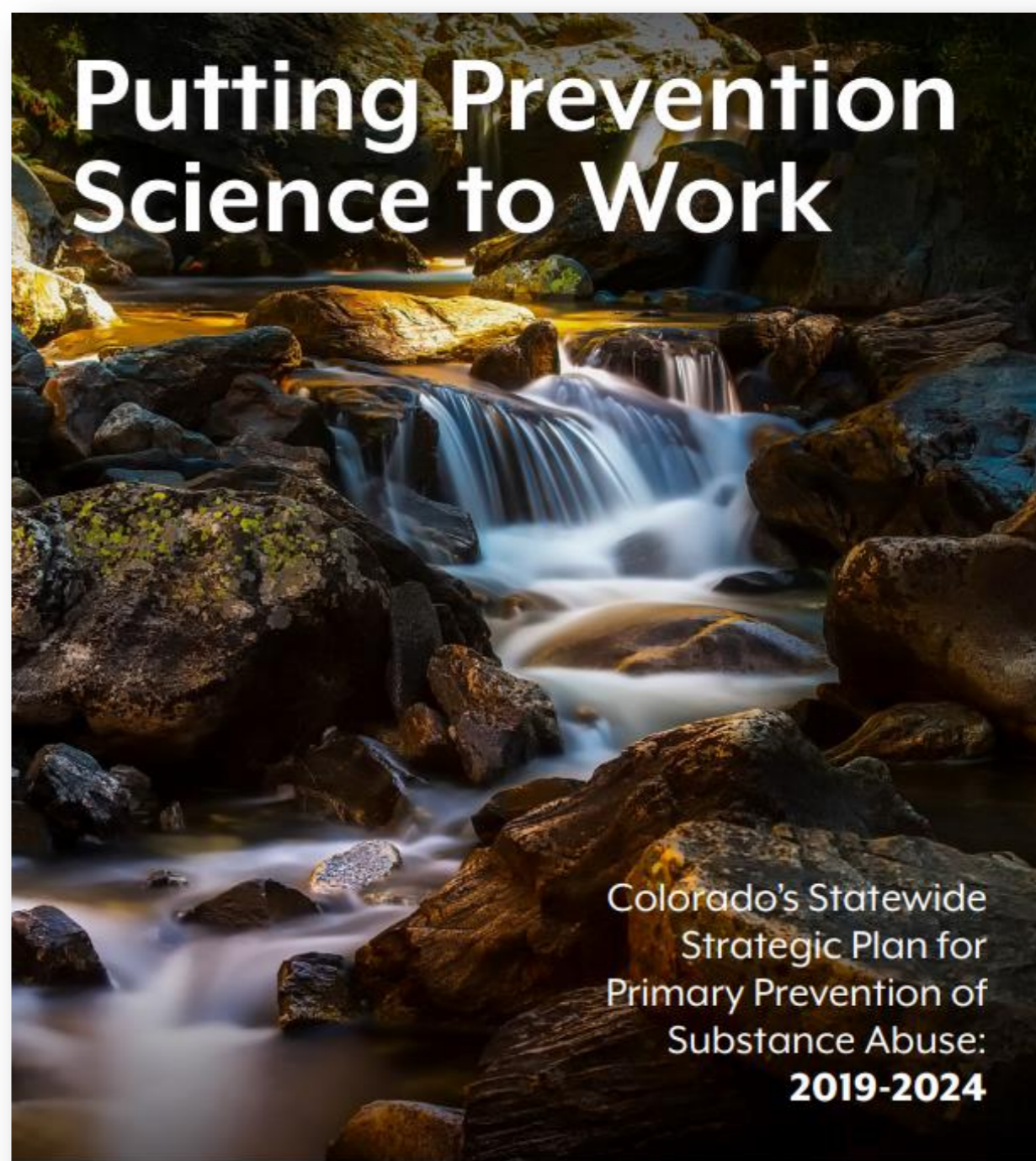
FINAL REPORT FOR THE COLORADO OFFICE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

FEBRUARY 2018

<https://www.coloradohealthinstitute.org/Research/Snaps>



# Putting Prevention Science to Work



Colorado's Statewide Strategic Plan for Primary Prevention of Substance Abuse:  
**2019-2024**

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<https://www.coloradohealthinstitute.org/research/prevention-strategic-plan>

## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE ONE:**

Colorado is a leader in strengthening and supporting effective, coordinated, statewide prevention.

Strategy 1a-Increase public awareness of the advances in and cost savings of prevention

Strategy 1b-Pursue policy change in local communities

Strategy 1c-Pursue policy change at the state level





## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE TWO:

Colorado's prevention system promotes tested and effective programs, policies and strategies that prevent substance abuse and other negative health behaviors.

Strategy 2a- Support and increase community-driven selection, implementation and fidelity of prevention interventions

Strategy 2b-Strengthen how Colorado tracks and increases the statewide adoption of tested and effective prevention programs and strategies



## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE THREE:**

Colorado's prevention workforce is equipped to deliver high-quality prevention.

Strategy 3a-Strengthen Colorado's prevention workforce with broad prevention skill building and certification and program specific competency trainings

Strategy 3b-Increase the diversity of prevention providers practicing in Colorado by geographic representation, race/ethnicity and other attributes



## **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE FOUR:**

Statewide prevention funders align their resources and focus areas.

Strategy 4a -Align public funders of prevention services

Strategy 4b-Clarify for communities how to access the right funding at the right time

Strategy 4c- Reduce inequities and inequalities leading to substance abuse and the factors that predict it



# *Three Takeaways*

1. Funded by OBH, Colorado now has its first Statewide Strategic Plan for Primary Prevention of Substance Abuse.
2. The plan builds on decades of collaboration between OBH, CDPHE and other statewide prevention funders.
3. The plan demonstrates a commitment by Colorado's prevention funders to align funding streams, strengthen the prevention workforce, and promote evidence-based prevention statewide.

