

DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES MISSION

To coordinate
and facilitate the
provision of services
and programs,
which work to
address economic
self-sufficiency
and promote social
wellbeing of
county residents.



For more information
contact your **Mayor** or
Governing Body.

Somerset County Department of
Human Services

Ebeny J. Torres
County Municipal Alliance Coordinator

or **Lisa Federico**
Addiction Services Director

(908) 704-6300

The Governor's Council on
Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

(609) 777-0526

www.co.somerset.nj.us/hservices

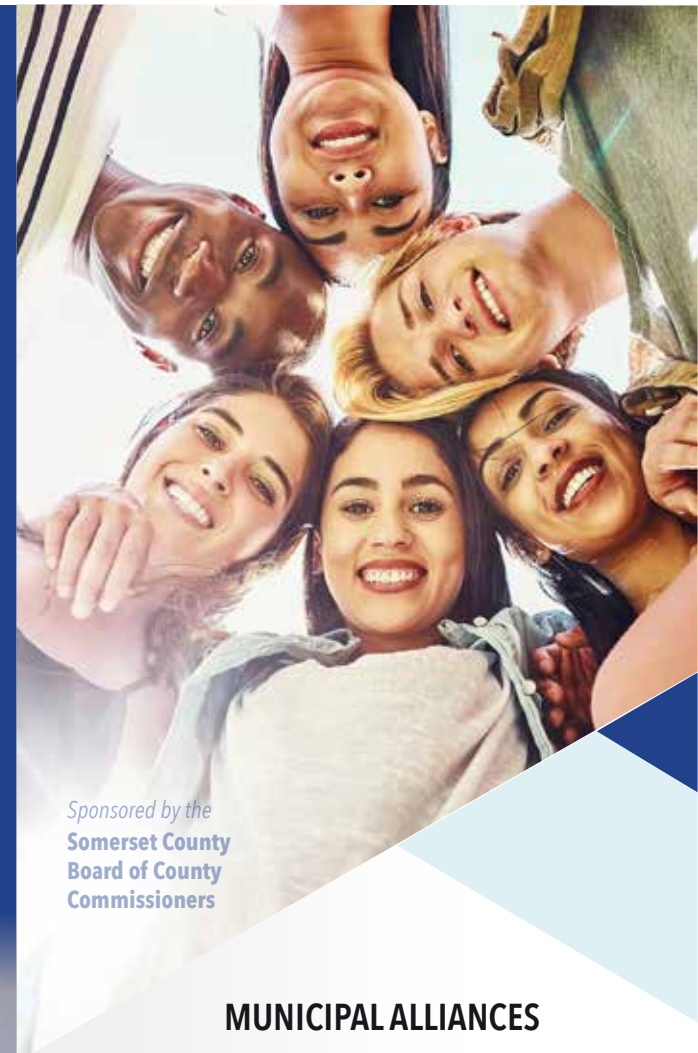
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Division of Operations and Planning
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Commissioners

MUNICIPAL ALLIANCES

**For the Prevention of
Substance Use**

**SOMERSET COUNTY DEPARTMENT
OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Office of Operations and Planning
Director: Michael Frost
27 Warren Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
(908) 704-6300

What is a Municipal Alliance?

A **Municipal Alliance** is a grassroots organization comprised of local citizens and community members interested in the prevention of drug and alcohol use.

Each municipality in New Jersey has the opportunity to organize a Municipal Alliance and receive state funding for substance use prevention programs from the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA).

Who are they?

The Municipal Alliances are comprised of volunteers from the community who dedicate their time to develop and implement programs that are an integral part in preventing drug and alcohol use among their residents. These programs reach out to people of all ages in the areas of recreation, education, and community awareness.

Our members are representatives from several sectors of the community, including (but not limited to) law enforcement, local government, school counselors and staff, parents, youth, local business, faith-based organizations, and private citizens with interest or experience in these issues.

Who are they?

Each municipality has a Municipal Alliance Committee (MAC) which collectively determines which programs to fund based on their community's needs.

Statewide, the Municipal Alliances exist in over 500 of New Jersey's municipalities offering over 2,000 prevention programs. Some examples of programs (either fully or partially funded) are:

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Programs for at-risk youth (**B Well, Boys Council, Girls Circle**); youth conferences and trainings (**Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute**), and peer leadership organizations such as **RAAD [Ridge Against Alcohol and Drugs]**, Youth Council, **SADD [Students Against Destructive Decisions]** and more.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

For parents, healthcare providers, educators, seniors, adolescents, children, and more.

Including (but not limited to) panel discussions, film screenings, interactive workshops, and more. Topics include parenting, cultural competence, drug trends, and mindfulness.

COMMUNITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

Aimed at educating others and reducing the stigma on substance use and mental health. Including (but not limited to) **Parents Who Host Lose the Most, It's 21 For A Reason, Overdose Awareness Day, Stigma-Free Somerset.**

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

An evidence-based course which helps individuals recognize signs and symptoms of mental health crisis, as well as how best to assist somebody in crisis.

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To join your local alliance, contact:

Ebeny J. Torres

Somerset County Alliance Coordinator

(908) 704-6305

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PREVENT SUBSTANCE USE