

Linn Together**December 1, 2021-August 31, 2025***(Drug Free Communities Grant NH28CE2021002882)****Project Description***

The Regional Research Institute for Human Services (RRI) at Portland State University will conduct a member skills & interest inventory and coalition assessment for the Linn Together grant funded under a CDC Drug Free Communities Grant (DFC).

Linn Together provides substance use education, resources, and support to the community that promote the physical and emotional well-being of youth and their families in Linn County, Oregon. In the past, Linn Together had an active membership. The ample availability of volunteers resulted in a reduced focus on recruitment and representation. However, as long-time members began to retire from their positions and the COVID-19 pandemic pulled members that were essential workers into different positions, our lack of new members impacted Linn Together's capacity to work in the community.

To address this void, Linn Together developed a Recruiting and Retention workgroup to reflect on both the diversity of the community and the membership. The workgroup intentionally invited individuals who represent the diversity of our county, either through their lived experience or professions, to join Linn Together. Of special interest are individuals who represent our rural communities, Hispanic community, the economically challenged, LGBTQ+, people in recovery, and the faith community.

The evaluation aims to support the Recruiting and Retention workgroup and consists of two parts:

1. Member skills & interest inventory
2. Annual coalition assessment & listening sessions.

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