



A healthy community partnership

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Redwood City 2020 Tuesday Tidbits

Inside this edition: Alcohol and Other Drugs Prevention Partnership, Socios for Success, and the Shinnyo-en Foundation



Alcohol and Other Drugs Prevention Partnership Fishbowl Amplifies Youth Voice

The Redwood City/North Fair Oaks [Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Partnership \(AOD PP\)](#) is committed to ensuring authentic youth-adult partnership. During a recent AOD PP meeting, adult allies facilitated a structured "listening session" called a "fishbowl" so that youth could share their experiences with alcohol and current drug culture, give input on current prevention practices, and suggest other prevention ideas that could be effective. Key takeaways shared by youth included: 1) Middle school can be a time with a lot of drug culture influence and fewer AOD-specific resources; 2) Successful AOD-free spaces and programs for youth that have a "cool factor" and address developmental needs like rebellion can be beneficial; 3) AOD education from both adults and peers that promotes preventing addiction and "straight-talk" about negative consequences, rather than stigmatizing or demonizing use, could work well; and 4) Building relationships with trusted adults could help reduce stress, which is sometimes a reason that youth use alcohol and other drugs. Youth voice and ideas are significant elements of the AOD PP's ongoing effort to design effective prevention strategies and these important takeaways will certainly improve our future endeavors.

Partners learn tangible tools from Socios for Success

Leaders from the [Redwood City Public Library](#) and the [Peninsula Literacy Coalition](#) convened recently for a family engagement workshop facilitated by Redwood City 2020's Executive Director Jana Kiser. As part of the collaborative's [Socios for Success](#) program (supported by the [Redwood City School District](#) and funded by the [Heising-Simons Foundation](#)), participants learned tangible tools to cultivate their capacity and that of families with children aged zero to eight-years-old to collaborate as partners and ensure children's success. The workshop emphasized strategies for community mobilization and family-to-family education and outreach that have been instrumental to increasing family engagement. [A newly published article authored by Hoover Community School principal Amanda Rothengast in Leadership magazine highlights how these family engagement strategies have been instrumental to transforming their school climate.](#) As the first occurrence of a Socios for Success training event outside of a school setting, this workshop demonstrates the strong collaboration between Redwood City 2020 and



its literacy partners and their commitment to best practices in family engagement.



Partnership with Shinnyo-en Foundation exemplifies collaboration

As a collaborative, Redwood City 2020 relies on strong partnerships to ensure that all children, youth, and their families are healthy, safe and academically successful. Our partnership with the [Shinnyo-en Foundation](#) epitomizes the collective impact we have when strong partners work together toward a common mission. For the past three years, the Shinnyo-en Foundation has graciously supported the [Shinnyo Fellowship](#), a collaboration between Redwood City 2020, the [John W. Gardner Center](#) at Stanford, the Shinnyo-en Foundation, and the [Stanford Haas Center for Public Service](#). This year, the Shinnyo Fellow is the coordinator of Redwood City 2020's [Redwood City Together](#) initiative, which strives to increase cultural and social awareness, build understanding among community members, and create empathy across socioeconomic class and racial divides. Further demonstrating support for Redwood City Together, the Shinnyo-en Foundation recently partnered with Redwood City 2020, the Shinnyo-en Head Temple, and Redwood City history author Janet McGovern to bring together temple members and surrounding neighbors to foster community connections and build a harmonious, healthy, and vibrant community. The Shinnyo-en Foundation has announced that they are generously renewing funding for the Shinnyo Fellowship for next year and Redwood City 2020 thanks the Shinnyo-en Foundation for their exemplary partnership.

Missed a previous edition? Find it on our [Resources page](#).

Redwood City 2020 | 650-423-2207 | rcw2020@gmail.com | www.rcw2020.org

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Redwood City 2020, 400 Duane Street, Room125, Redwood City, CA 94062

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