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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Community Assessment to Help Identify SUD Needs Throughout the Region.**

*Huntington and Charleston, WV:* Prestera Center and its community partners are conducting a substance use disorder (SUD) community assessment to help identify needs, resources and solutions so that local prevention efforts may be more effective in reducing SUD in our communities. Prestera Center joins community prevention coalitions across the region to collectively strengthen local efforts in southwestern West Virginia. This includes prevention coalitions in the following counties: Boone, Cabell, Clay, Kanawha, Lincoln, Logan, Mason, Mingo, Putnam, and Wayne. Collective Impact, LLC, a capacity-building consulting firm based out of Huntington WV is assisting in conducting the assessment project.

Members of the community are welcome to complete the survey and learn more about SUD issues throughout the region. A community stakeholder survey is being administered with 20 focus groups will be conducted in each of the 10 counties. In addition, secondary data on a wide range of indicators is being collected and analyzed. You can access the survey from your computer or any mobile device at this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PresteraSUDSurvey> or you can access the survey by scanning this QR code:



The final report including key findings and conclusions will be available in the fall of 2021. Results from the assessment project will be used to assist community partners across the region in planning for future services, educating the community, and leveraging and distributing resources over the next several years.

For more information about the community needs assessment project, contact Kim Shoemake, Regional Prevention Coordinator at Prestera Center at (304) 412-7036 or [Kimberly.shoemake@prestera.org](mailto:Kimberly.shoemake@prestera.org)

Prestera Center is leading the way in mental health and substance use treatment, recovery and supportive services at fifty-five different locations across eight counties in West Virginia. Each year Prestera Center's 600 staff members provide high quality care to eighteen thousand adults, children and families, regardless of ability to pay. For more information on Prestera Center, visit online at [www.prestera.org](http://www.prestera.org), like us on Facebook or call toll free (877) 399-7776.

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