

**FROM: Butterfoss, F. D., Goodman, R. M., Wandersman, A.
“Community Coalitions for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.”
Health Education Research, Vol. 8 (3), 1993, 315-330.**

The existing literature suggests that coalitions form and develop in specific stages. Therefore, a discussion of coalition functioning should take into account a coalition's “stages of development.” These stages include: formation, implementation, maintenance, and the accomplishment of goals or outcomes. The formation stage occurs at the initiation of funding from the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). The agency that is granted the funding (lead agency) convenes an *ad hoc* committee of local community leaders. The *ad hoc* committee nominates influential citizens to serve on committees representing business, education, religion, criminal justice and other sectors of the community. Training on prevention goals, issues, and tasks takes place. The implementation stage occurs as each of the committees conducts a needs assessment to determine the extent and nature of its constituents' concerns and resources around alcohol and other drug abuse. The needs assessment consists of compiling secondary data as well as written questionnaires, town meetings, and interviews which are developed and conducted by the committees with input from the staff from the lead agency and the evaluation team. Implementation continues with the committees making use of the results of the needs assessment to develop a community-wide plan. The maintenance stage consists of the monitoring and upkeep of the committees and their planned activities. The outcome stage consists of the impacts that result from the deployment of community-wide strategies.

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