

## **Collaborating with Community Partners to Address Truancy**

Generate public discussion of truancy issues and policies with school staff at school board meetings, with parents and teachers at PTA meetings, and with diverse community members in other public forums.

Consult with your district attorney about the link between truancy, substance abuse, and crime in your area and how you might collaborate to address these problems.

Collaborate with your police department on truancy prevention and intervention efforts. For example, start a "truancy patrol" and engage local businesses and residents to participate. When youth are caught skipping school, they can be reported to the school system and either returned to class or home to their families.

Make sure that schools and social service agencies are working with at-risk students as well as their families, since truancy often stems from various challenges in students' homes.

To learn more about collaborating with school and community partners throughout the prevention planning and programming process, please visit the National Center's past on-line event