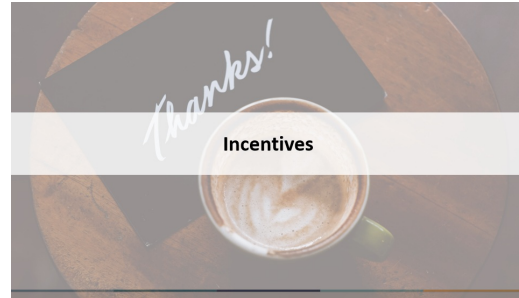


# OMNI TA Newsletter

Volume 60 | December 15, 2023

## Recap of YAS Community Forum #3

The OMNI Team and OBHW thank everyone who joined our third and final Young Adult Survey (YAS) Community Forum on December 5<sup>th</sup>. It focused on changes incorporated in the survey for 2024 and the incentives that CSBs can use to encourage participation. The forum recording and slides are available here in [Box.com](#). Recordings and slides from all three forums are available there as well.



- **Highlighted changes and improvements made to the 2024 YAS:**
  - Improved skip logic in Survey Monkey as well as the paper survey's formatting for clearer directions of what questions to answer or skip.
  - Combined race and ethnicity into one multiple-response question and re-framed several questions to focus on participants' self-behavior instead of participants' perceptions of their peers' behavior (i.e., access to substances).
  - New questions about problem gaming/gambling, exploring vaped substances, fentanyl awareness, military service, and languages spoken at home were added.
- **Information about incentives to increase participation in the survey:**
  - The OBHW-OMNI TA Guidance Sheet is ready for you with clarifying information about permissible funding and types of incentives. Recall that gift cards must be \$25 or less. These and other incentives or giveaways may not be purchased with Block Grant, SOR, or ARPA funds.
  - Consider partnering with another organization to support management and track the fulfillment of incentives. Mary Moore at VCU is a great contact if you are interested in exploring this option: [mmoore@vcu.org](mailto:mmoore@vcu.org).
  - It is also important to be aware of possible scammers and spammers that may be attracted due to incentives provided for taking the survey. In the forum slides, we provided some recommendations on this and have other guidance in our supporting materials in [box.com](#).
  - **Please remember to send us your incentive link so we can include them in the survey ASAP!** We can't launch the survey without all incentive forms being ready and tested by our team.

We'll launch YAS data collection on January 16, 2024! More communications will be forthcoming as we get closer. Between now and then, we will also continue to add resources to [Box.com](#) to support the survey administration. This includes the YAS Protocol, the survey tool itself, and updated graphics and flyers.

Please keep in mind OMNI's annual office closure from December 25<sup>th</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup>. We won't be available during this time, but we will be happy to assist you once we come back. Happy holidays!

**Thank You, and Happy Holidays from the  
OMNI TA Team**



It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of 2023. This year has been filled with both successes and challenges alike. However, one thing that remains constant is that all the work being done by the CSBs continues to greatly impact the overall health and well-being of people residing in communities throughout Virginia. We continue to acknowledge and thank you all for the level of engagement and commitment to prevention work throughout the year. It has truly been incredible.

We want to express great appreciation for all CSBs and Prevention Staff and wish you all Happy Holidays. We hope this is a restorative rest period for you all, and we look forward to jumping back into this wonderful work come the New Year!

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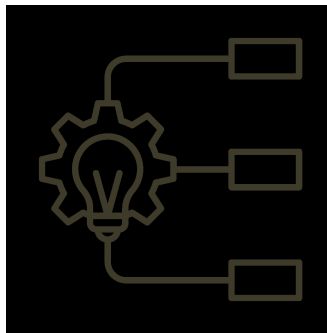
## Resources You Can Use



### **The Guidance Sheet for the 2024 Virginia Young Adult Survey is available.**

OBHW and OMNI have collaborated to prepare a Guidance Sheet for CSBs to reference to prepare for the administration of the 2024 Virginia Young Adult Survey. The guidance sheet can be found in the OMNI TA Resources for CSBs folder on [box.com](#). CSBs will find important information about the CSB YAS Administration, including the implementation timeline, the funding source to use to implement YAS efforts, information about incentives and gifts, and guidance on contacting OMNI or OBHW for technical assistance.

[Click here](#) for the guidance sheet and download a copy.

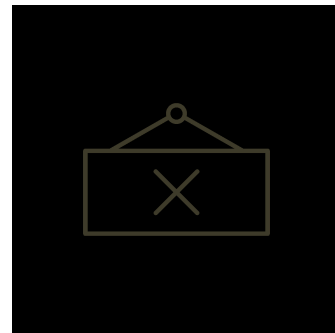


### **SAMHSA has recently released the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) in Spanish**

Spanish-speaking prevention professionals can now use the The Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) resource. This is a comprehensive guide prevention professionals use to plan, implement, and evaluate prevention practices and programs.

[Click here for the Spanish version](#)

[Click here for the English version](#)



### **OMNI Offices Closed from December 25-January 1**

OMNI will be officially closed from December 25th through January 1st, reopening on Tuesday, January 2nd. The OMNI team will return in 2024 to assist you with project-related support!

As OMNI prepares for the closure, it is recommended that CSBs plan to wrap up TA requests by Monday, December 18th, so that requests can be met before the closure. During the closure, any emails or voicemail messages will be reviewed and responded to as soon as possible, starting January 2nd.

# In Memory of Dr. Eva Stitt



As many of you may know, on November 27, Dr. Eva Stitt, passed away. Eva played a large role in the OBHW team and refugee communities across the Commonwealth. For many members of the team, she felt like family. Some of her biggest influences were supporting the development of the Virginia Behavioral Health Interpreting Curriculum (BHIC), the Virginia refugee resettlement program, the development of culturally adapted health interventions, and coordinating refugee conferences in various regions. She will be remembered for her leadership, kindness, and passion for promoting mental health awareness and community wellness. Her dedication to refugee communities was evident in what she did and was felt by team members, community members, and community mental health professionals.

May we all continue to move Eva's work forward.

## Important Dates

### December 25, 2023 - January 1st, 2024

- OMNI Annual Office Closing

### January 10, 2024

- **Data Entry Alert!** Enter Activity Data through 12/31/23 into PBPS for SOR and BG

### January 16, 2024

- YAS Administration begins

### March 6, 2024

- **Ethics Training** in Southwest Region - *contact your BHW Consultant for more information*

## Quick Links:

Demographics  
Calculator

VA  
Prevention  
Works! Portal

VASIS  
Dashboard

CPG's PBPS  
System

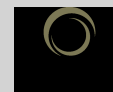


Data Entry  
Guidelines

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