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EVERYDAY HEROES TEAMING UP FOR PREVENTION

SHOWCASE: Montgomery County

The Montgomery County Community Health Improvement Project or MCCHIP is a C-2000 team alive and well. The MCCHIP mission is to improve the overall health and well-being of all Montgomery County citizens by increasing health awareness, assessing and prioritizing current community health needs, and empowering residents to take an active role in this ongoing process. Lori Riddle, Youth Tobacco Prevention Program Coordinator and a leader of the C-2000 team shared that the goal of their SQUADS team is to reduce the percentage of tobacco use by Montgomery County Youth by 5% by 2007. SQUADS is currently working with the school boards of Montgomery County to request that they place signage on school grounds declaring a smoke-free campus. A recent success for MCCHIP in late February was a Smoke Free Week with the Montgomery County R-II Middle School. They produced PSA's that were broadcast on their local radio stations. MCCHIP also provides these programs and alternative activities to their county: Parents Who Care; Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU); Not On Tobacco (NOT); Youth Tobacco Prevention Program; Storytelling; Pool Parties; and various other ATOD-free activities.

The Missouri Sheriff's Methamphetamine Relief Team awarded a certificate of achievement showing that Montgomery County Sheriff's Department is out there working on decreasing methamphetamine use in their county. Excelling to the top 5 counties of 2002 in the highest number of national clandestine lab seizures or (EPICS) reported, Sheriff Bob Davis and Chief Deputy Matt Schoo are proud of their department. Chief Deputy Matt Schoo, a 14 year veteran of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department, shared that methamphetamine is a problem that creates a burden to the public, and generates burglaries and other property related crimes as well as increased reports of violent behavior. More problems are associated with methamphetamine than just busting the drug dealer or manufacturer. Chief Deputy Schoo believes that with the amount of funds received and smaller size of their department, the officers really take care of the methamphetamine problem and are hard-charging in taking care of the public welfare.

TIPS FOR YOUTH LEADERS

Creativity promotes, among other things, a sense of accomplishment in youth and adults. Providing an environment that cultivates creativity in youth can help to produce better problem-solving skills. As well, creative activities teach youth to put their imagination to use which can lead to them learning to be constructive with all other areas of their lives (e.g. free time, information gathering, school work and playing with others). Some youth need to be guided along at first as they learn to wrap their minds around becoming creative thinkers and doers. A simple idea to help promote creative thinking is to ask the youth to expand on their existing thoughts about something through creative brainstorming. Letting the youth know about the options of creative activities that exist (e.g. music, drama, art classes) can get their curiosity peaked! Here is a website filled with creative ideas:

<http://creativekidsathome.com/activities.shtml>

FREE STUFF! FOR THE PREVENTIONIST

Journeyworks Publishing 10 free pamphlets:

<http://www.journeyworks.com/samples.htm>

Tobacco Information and Prevention Source (TIPS):

<http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/pubs1.htm#quit>

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Alcohol and Pregnancy:

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/fas/catalog/index.html>

THE PREVENTION PLANET

STORIES FROM OTHER STATES AND COUNTRIES

ENLAPRE, the European Network for Local Alcohol Prevention Research and Evaluation, is a project "to create a European network of researchers and practitioners who will promote preventive efforts in the local community which are aimed at reducing alcohol-related problems." Among the countries involved are Spain, Poland, Germany, Denmark, Scotland, and the Ukraine. These efforts will extend to all of Europe and will include an inventory of prevention services that exist and publishing a book on prevention methods.

BEST OF LUCK ENLAPRE!

ENLAPRE. Retrieved March 22, 2004, from

<http://www.mas.lu.se/enlapre/>

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SIMPLE BUT BRILLIANT

Most of our coalitions and groups meet regularly for 'core' meetings. Has your group ever entertained the idea of how beneficial committee work could be to your 'core' groups purpose, but thought it would be too time-consuming? If you are like most of us, committee work would be great if there was an 8th day in the week! The Council for Drug Free Youth (CDFY) in Jefferson City has found a way to make committee work a reality. They set aside fifteen minutes before or after their regularly scheduled meetings to work on committee efforts. It is preferable to meet before the meeting because then you can report out to your larger 'core' group the committee's work that happened right before the meeting. Nice work CDFY!

ADA MINI -GRANT RELEASED

The Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse and ACT Missouri have released the ADA mini-grant for the 2004-2005 school year. There will be 3 categories to choose from:

Capacity Building: max request amount 7k.

Sustainability: max request amount 10k.

Community Norm/Environmental Change: max 7k.

The only Model Programs that will be funded are those that work with environmental strategies (e.g. Child Development Project). The grant will be due in full on June 1st, with awards to be announced on July 15th, and monies to be released to teams on October 1st of 2004. To see more environmental strategy Model Programs that exist visit this website:

http://modelprograms.samhsa.gov/template_cf_of_m?page=search

Please contact your Specialist for more detailed information on the grant process.

HYPERLINKS

SOME GREAT WEBSITES WORTHY OF NOTE:

Coalition of Governor's Spouses working for youth:

<http://www.alcoholfreechildren.org/gs/leadership.htm>

Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse's Prevention Website:

<http://www.missouriprevention.org/>

Center for Substance Abuse Prevention Pathways:

<http://preventionpathways.samhsa.gov/>

School Violence Prevention:

<http://www.mentalhealth.org/schoolviolence/default.asp>

Family Violence Prevention Fund:

<http://endabuse.org/>

National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center:

<http://www.safeyouth.org/scripts/index.asp>

WANT TO BE AN ADVOCATE?

Have you ever wanted to get your voice heard on an issue but did not know how to go about getting it done? Well, it is much easier than you would think! Our state legislators have a job to represent the needs of the people. Only when we contact them will they understand what it is the people need ☺! Simply go to the Missouri State Senate Legislator Lookup website at:

http://www.senate.state.mo.us/zipcode/leg_lookup.htm and put in your zip-code. Now click on "Lookup Legislator" and presto you have your Senate, House, US Congressman, state officials and US representatives all within reach. Click on a name, see a picture of your representative and find out about bills they sponsor and co-sponsor; what committees they are on; and how to contact them!

TRAINING UPDATE

Prevention Resource Center is proud to offer you the **40 Developmental Assets** series of trainings designed by Search Institute. Through the grant writing efforts of the Moberly Caring Communities C-2000 group, these trainings were brought to Missouri. We would like to formally thank Moberly for their efforts in bringing Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets trainings to our state! These trainings focus on establishing an environment that is healthy for youth and communities and promotes the development of 20 internal and 20 external assets. This framework reaches across all socioeconomic and cultural barriers. Learn how to empower the youth of your community by creating an environment that envelops their growing needs and concerns.

Contact us for trainings on this topic in your community *OR* to learn more about the possibilities of the 40 Developmental Assets framework, please visit this website:

<http://www.searchinstitute.org/assets/>

Look for more detail about the 40 Developmental Assets in our April issue of Everyday Heroes.

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