

CADCA's Mid-Year Training Institute Rocks the Windy City



2004 Mid-Year Institute attendees at Chicago's Navy Pier.

A record number of more than 400 community coalition leaders spent four days in August learning how to make their coalitions even more effective. From the intensive, four-day Boot Camp, to the demanding two-day Defending Your Life workshop, participants were exposed to a wealth of information and tools to help them build safe, healthy and drug-free communities. Attendees also enjoyed a reception at Soldier Field, a trip to Navy Pier and the opportunity to “Ride-Along” with Chicago’s Police Department.

The theme for the Mid-Year was “Charting a Course: A Clear Vision for Success.” General Arthur T. Dean, CADCA’s Chairman and CEO, welcomed the participants, saying, “Whether you are a seasoned veteran or new to the field, we hope to help you chart your own course to success.”

According to one coalition leader, “the level of information was outstanding. Additionally, I enjoyed visiting Chicago for the first time.” Another participant

said, “this was awesome. I work with 16 coalitions in Michigan...The conference overwhelmed me at first then I was able to see how this process works and where we need to go in the future. I was pumped to return and work with some people I met from my area. This was an eye-opening experience and I got useful

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A Message from the Chairman

This year continues to demonstrate wide interest in community coalitions and America's critical need for the work that coalitions do so well. As you may know, CADCA's National Leadership Forum XIV this past January attracted a record 2,100 participants. Records were again set at our Mid-Year Training Institute in August with over 400 coalition leaders enrolled in four days of intensive instruction.

This issue of *Coalitions* features a full description of the Mid-Year Training Institute. The pictures and stories from the Mid-Year will give you some idea what we did and what we learned in Chicago. But there is nothing like being there. I came away energized, with renewed faith in what America's communities are doing to stand against the ravages of drugs and alcohol. The participants were focused, enthusiastic and eager to apply newfound skills to the work of their coalitions.

Feature articles in this issue of *Coalitions* describe DEA's Demand Reduction program, development of new coalitions through the National Coalition Institute's Greenhouse program, and MADD's use of online instruction to prevent underage drinking. These examples demonstrate how hard work and innovative ideas are transforming our communities.

I hope that you find useful information here in *Coalitions* and I encourage you to turn to CADCA for help and support. Whether by Internet, phone or face-to-face, we are committed to helping you build safe, healthy and drug-free communities.

Sincerely,

General Arthur T. Dean
Major General, U.S. Army, Retired
Chairman & CEO

CADCA's National the National Traini

All of America's anti-drug coalitions deserve quality training. The National Training Initiative (NTI) launched by CADCA's National Coalition Institute is an ambitious plan to make quality training available across the nation. It will meet the challenges of high quality, large scale and low cost by collaborating with key partners. The NTI Pilot will begin November of this year.

The National Training Initiative has been developed to systematically address the technical assistance and training needs of America's anti-drug coalitions. The curriculum is based on a thorough review of current training, a review of the research on how to improve organizational practice and individual skills, and on a comprehensive market study of the needs of coalitions. Courses will be available locally, at regional training centers and through distance learning, and will also be coordinated with CADCA's major national coalition gatherings including the National Leadership Forum and the Mid-Year Training Institute.

The National Training Initiative coursework is built around core competencies (what you need to know) and essential processes (what your team needs to do). The core competencies are the essential skills community coalition members need to make a difference. Based on a public health frame work, the core competencies represent the discreet steps that move local volunteers from determining what problems exist to measuring improvement. In brief, the core competencies are: Community Assessment; Analyze the Issue or Problem; Develop a Strategic Plan; Community Action and Intervention; Social Marketing of Ideas or Practices/Media Advocacy; Evaluation; and

Coalition Institute Launches Training Initiative Pilot

Sustain the Effort.

Every community coalition is unique, but all must complete basic essential processes in order to succeed. The essential processes do not tell local coalitions what to do, rather they show coalitions the actions they can take to enhance the likelihood of achieving results, no matter the goal or target. The essential processes are: Assess the problem through data (Community Assessment); Explain how you will make a difference in the problem (Logic Model); Involve the community in planning a response (Action Plan); Adapt national programs and create local solutions (Intervention Design); Use information to improve and be accountable (Evaluation Plan); and Maintain the effort long enough to generate results (Sustainability Plan).

Five NTI courses have been designed to meet the needs of anti-drug coalitions. “Coalitions 101” was created to meet the basic needs of those involved in creating or “resuscitating” a community anti-drug coalition. Three intermediate level courses are offered that address unique leader, staff and volunteer needs. These three ongoing classes are the “Leadership Challenges Course,” the “Staff Challenges Course” and the “Community Challenges Course.” The final course offering is a graduate certificate program suitable for all regardless of the role they play in coalition work.

The National Training Initiative Pilot

will initially focus on Coalitions 101. The year-long course includes staff, volunteers and board members together in one class. The executive director and a key leader attend three retreat-style trainings during the year. Each of these retreats covers one-third of the core competencies in detail. These retreats also prepare the director and key leader to act as facilitators in their home community for the six essential processes. During the retreats trainees receive an orientation to each core



Kareemah Abdullah, Deputy Director of Training and Technical Assistance

competency, examples of each with specific application and “how to” processes and checklists. Trainees then practice applying the skills with critique and feedback from classmates and instructors. During the class, trainees are grouped into cohorts of five communities that will work together throughout the year-long process. Between

retreats, via distance learning technology, the cohorts are reconvened to critique each others work in a supportive environment.

In order to pilot such a comprehensive training effort, the Institute has partnered with federal agencies, consulting firms and individual volunteers. Major contributors include the National Guard’s Northeast Counterdrug Training Center (NCTC), University of Kansas Graduate School, Community Systems Group (CSG) and the National Coalition Institute’s Leader Mentors. This collaborative approach has enabled the National Coalition Institute to leverage the expertise and resources needed for the project to succeed.

The piloting of the National Training Initiative is an exciting development for the National Coalition Institute. It is a giant step toward the Institute’s goal of providing all of America’s anti-drug coalitions with the comprehensive training and technical assistance they need to reduce substance abuse in their communities. Jane Callahan, Project Director of CADCA’s National Coalition Institute, is looking forward to the evaluation of the Pilot and the large-scale implementation of the National Training Initiative. “Since its inception, the Institute has been seeking a way to take high-quality, intensive coalition training to scale at a cost that is affordable to a community coalition. Thanks to the National Guard and our other partners, this dream is about to become reality.” ■

Community Coalition Member Gives Testimony at

On Tuesday, June 15, 2004, Rhonda Ramsey-Molina, President of the Coalition for a Drug Free Greater Cincinnati testified before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pension, Subcommittee on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services on "Providing Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Services to Adolescents." Ms. Ramsey-Molina testified that community coalitions are vital to reducing the use and abuse of illicit drugs and alcohol among adolescents because they address the entire community and all of the systems that touch the lives of adolescents. She emphasized that coalitions are uniquely positioned to change community norms because they employ multiple strategies over multiple sectors, helping to engage everyone in the community.

Ms. Ramsey-Molina described five

reasons why coalitions are particularly effective at reducing substance abuse and its related problems. Coalitions address the community at large by building a community consensus so that youth receive consistent messages about not using drugs and alcohol regardless of what system they interact with in their community. Coalitions develop a broad base of support and collaboration where they convene the energy and resources of multiple sectors to enhance the effectiveness of individual approaches. Coalitions implement data driven planning processes to define the issue within their community and then program accordingly. Given coalitions' collaborative approach, they are uniquely positioned to plan and implement a diverse set of strategies to change community norms, attitudes and standards of conduct. Finally, coalitions focus on increasing protective factors and

decreasing risk factors by working through multiple systems within the community to address adolescent substance use and abuse.

Ms. Ramsey-Molina's testimony did an exceptional job of explaining how community coalitions can be successful in reducing illegal drug use and abuse. To read Ms. Ramsey-Molina's full testimony, please visit CADCA's website at <http://cadca.org/CoalitionResources/PP-CurrentLegislation.asp>.

Ms. Ramsey-Molina's testimony also incorporated many of CADCA's advocacy tips. She gave very thorough testimony, which was short, specific and practical. She did not use jargon or overwhelm Committee Members with too much information. Ms. Ramsey-Molina also included charts and data-driven examples, highlighting reductions in monthly use of cigarettes,

CADCA Chairman Teaches Fifth Grade



Students at Oak Hill Elementary School in Fairfax, VA.

Near the end of the 2003-2004 school year, General Arthur T. Dean, CADCA's Chairman and CEO, spent the morning with 5th Graders of Oak Hill Elementary School in Fairfax County, Virginia.

General Dean's lesson, based on materials provided by SAMHSA's Reach Out Now National Teach-In program, provided an entertaining and informative overview of the dangers of alcohol. The youngsters especially enjoyed the slides describing the impact of alcohol on the body's major organs. They also participated enthusiastically in a discussion of ways to say "no" to peers encouraging them to drink.

The Reach Out Now National Teach-In is an annual program that brings community leaders into America's fifth grade classrooms to teach children about the dangers of underage alcohol use. According to SAMHSA's 2002 National Survey on Drug Use and

Senate Hearing

beer and marijuana among 7th through 12th graders. This factual information supported the points made in her testimony about the successful achievements of the Coalition for a Drug Free Greater Cincinnati.

In his opening remarks, Chairman Mike DeWine (R-OH) said, “research has shown prevention can be very effective. Comprehensive, community-based approaches – combining individually focused strategies with more environmental approaches – have yielded very positive results in communities around the country.”

Testimony was also given by: Charles G. Curie - Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; Sandra A. Brown, Ph.D. - Department of Psychology, University of California, California; Roger Weissberg, Ph.D. - Department of Psychology, University

of Illinois at Chicago, Illinois; Ronald P. Anton - Director of Juvenile Justice and Community Programs, Day One, Cape Elizabeth, Maine; and Kris Shipley, Youth - Pasadena, Maryland.

If you would like to learn more about how to become a better advocate, please visit the Public Policy Section of CADCA’s website at <http://cadca.org/CoalitionResources/PP-main.asp>. ■



Coalition leader Rhonda Ramsey-Molina gave testimony in June before the Senate Subcommittee on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services.

Health, almost 10.7 million youth ages 12-20 (nearly 30 percent) reported using alcohol at least once in the month prior to the survey. A survey of sixth-grade students found that over half said it would be easy for someone their age to get alcohol at a party. Why is age of first use important? Research shows that more than 40 percent of individuals who start drinking before the age of 15 will develop alcohol abuse or alcohol dependence at some point in their lives. The 2005 Teach-In will be in April as part of Alcohol Awareness Month.

SAMHSA is also conducting an ongoing campaign to prevent underage drinking. Too Smart to Start is a public education initiative to help communities prevent underage alcohol use. Nine pilot communities have demonstrated success. To read about what the pilot communities have done (and to find out more about the initiative), visit the Too Smart to Start website <http://www.toosmarttostart>.

samhsa.gov/communities.html. To find out how to become part of the Too Smart to Start initiative call 1-800-729-6686. ■



Gen. Dean at Oak Hill Elementary School

National Coalition Institute's Leader Mentors Strengthen the Field

Recognizing the importance of collaboration to the sustainability and effectiveness of community anti-drug coalitions, CADCA's National Coalition Institute created the Leader Mentor Program, a multi-faceted approach to further the development of coalitions and exceptional community leaders. Through the Program, experienced coalition leaders provide mentoring to novice coalitions, assist with Institute activities, work together as a group on collaborative projects, and focus on professional development to strengthen and expand their skills. The Program currently consists of twenty-eight selected community anti-drug coalition leaders representing demographically diverse communities across the country. Community coalitions and leaders have gained much from the program. "I learned from the mentored coalitions, just as they learned strategies and examples from me," reflects Leader Mentor Nora Drexler from Coalition Pathways in Erie, Pennsylvania.

In the initial phase of the Leader Mentor Program, the Institute matched each experienced leader with two novice coalitions participating in the Greenhouse Program. A one-year training initiative, the Greenhouse Program focused on thirty newly-formed, diverse, local anti-drug coalitions in economically-disadvantaged communities. The Leader Mentors participated in three on-site trainings with the Greenhouse Program coalitions and provided additional guidance in the field. The leaders were key to the success of the Greenhouse coalitions. "Without our Leader Mentor this project would not be flourishing," commented Greenhouse Participant Teresa Menchaca with the Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse in Santa Maria, California.

New opportunities in training and leadership for Leader Mentors continue to evolve, enhancing both the Leader Mentor Program and the capabilities of the National Coalition Institute. The leaders can select training, evaluation and professional development opportunities to work on in support of the Institute and

its mission to create stronger and more effective community anti-drug coalitions.

The Institute's Training and Technical Assistance Department is utilizing the participants' skills and knowledge to implement the National Training Initiative. Leader Mentors will be able to become Certified National Training Initiative Co-Instructors, Pilot Course Observers, or Certified Coalition Trainers. They will be called upon to critique Institute and coalition products and provide subject matter expertise. Leader Mentor Bob Brex of Northeast Communities Against Substance Abuse in Dayville, Connecticut believes, "the Leader Mentor Program has provided benefits to emerging coalitions and has also provided benefits

to the coalitions represented by the leader mentors, in terms of increased training and networking opportunities."

A unique aspect of the Leader Mentor Program is the Project of National Significance. Engaged as a collaborative group, participants met in April of 2004 to discuss projects that could increase the sustainability and capacity of coalitions on a

larger scale. The Leader Mentors decided to develop and carry out a plan to promote coalition effectiveness through the use of media and marketing. The Institute looks forward to reporting on the lasting impact made by the project.

Jane Callahan, Director of CADCA's National Coalition Institute, finds the Leader Mentors essential to the Institute's strategy, "We depend on our leader mentors to help us bring a 'real life' perspective to our work. Without their involvement, we could not carry out the Institute's ambitious plan." The Leader Mentor Program continues to expand the capacity of the Institute to provide training and technical assistance to an increasing number of coalitions that are fighting for safer and healthier drug-free communities. The participating Leader Mentors deserve our praise and support for all of their work to strengthen community anti-drug coalitions. ■



2004 Leader Mentors:

Rosemary Adiletto, Building a Better Bensalem Today, Bensalem, PA

Margaret Bartoletti, Rio Grande Safe Communities Coalition, El Paso, TX

Bob Brex, Northeast Communities Against Substance Abuse, Dayville, CT

Gwendolyn W. Brown, Genesis Prevention Coalition, Inc., Atlanta, GA

Jeri Brunoe, Wellbriety for Youth, Tucson, AZ

Catherine T. Brunson, Metropolitan Drug Commission, Knoxville, TN

Ann M. Comiskey, Troy Community Coalition, Troy, MI

Nora Drexler, Coalition Pathways, Inc., Erie, PA

Penny Dryden, Coalition of Community Prevention Partnerships, New Castle, DE

Deacon Dzierzawski, The Community Partnership, Toledo, OH

Cheryl Guthier, Community Prevention Partnership of Berks County, Reading, PA

Cindy Hayford, Deerfield Valley Community Partnership, Wilmington, VT

Ricardo Jasso, Luz Social Services, Inc., Tucson, AZ

Keral Kronseder-Vogt Lee, County Coalition for a Drug-Free Southwest Florida, Cape Coral, FL

Steven Magallan, America's Promise, Alexandria, VA

Willie Mitchell, San Antonio Fighting Back, San Antonio, TX

Alice Murphy, Alliance Counteracting Alcohol and Tobacco Advertising Among Youth, Montgomery, AL

Mel Orpilla, City of Vallejo Fighting Back Partnership, Vallejo, CA

Stephanie Soares Pump, Oregon Partnership, Medford, OR

Sue Staggs, Community Action Partnership for Prevention (CAPP), Richmond, TX

Mary S. Sutherland, HPPI, Inc., Tallahassee, FL

Linda Thompson, Greater Spokane Substance Abuse Council, Spokane, WA

Ava Troxler, Coalition for Drug Abuse Prevention, Winston-Salem, NC

Ralph Varela, Eloy Governor's Alliance Against Drugs, Eloy, AZ

Doreen Turk-White, Empowerment Zone Coalition, Inc., Detroit, MI

Pam White, Nashville Prevention Partnership, Nashville, TN

Susan Yellow Horse, Takini Net, Westminster, CO

Lori Zehe, Consultant, Parma Heights, OH

CADCA'S
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FREE
KIDS**
CAMPAIGN
AWARDS DINNER

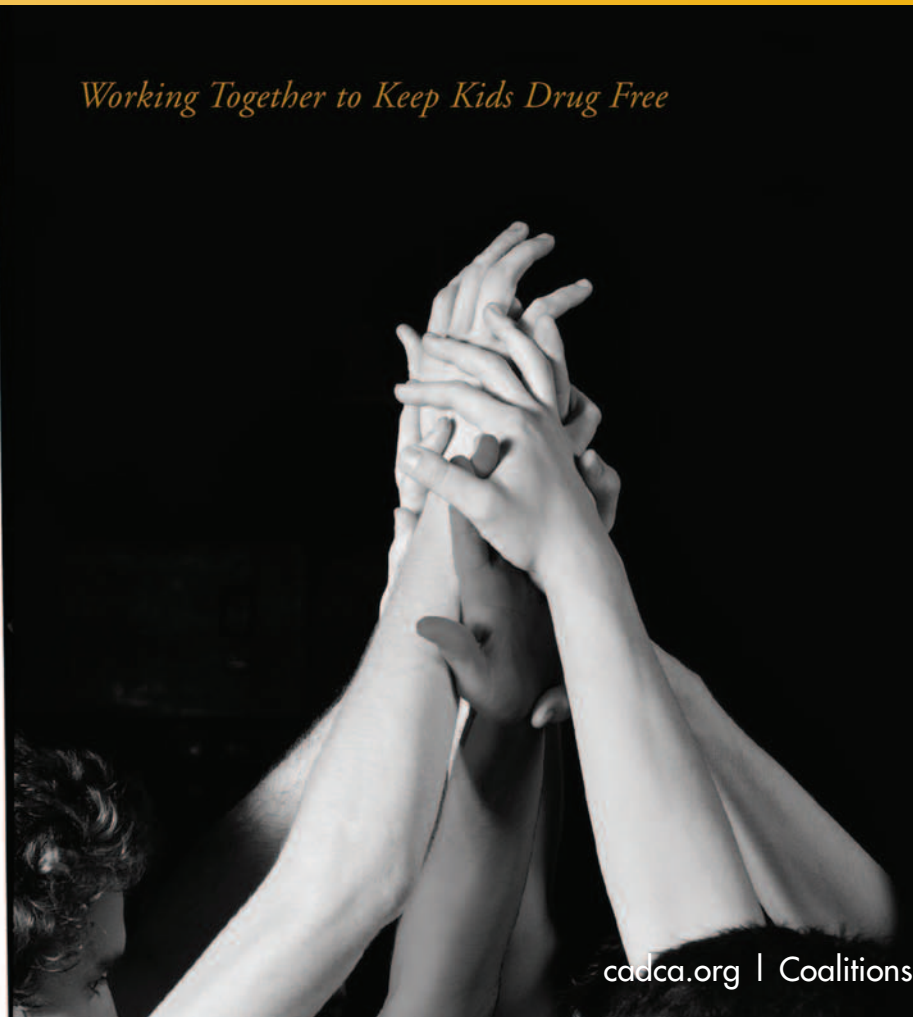
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The Library of Congress

Entertainment

Members of the National
Symphony Orchestra

Working Together to Keep Kids Drug Free



Mid Year *(continued from Cover)*

information to bring back to my Safe Community Coalitions.”

Speakers at this year’s Institute included Mary Ann Solberg, Deputy Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; Theodora Binion Taylor, Director of the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse; and Kelyv E. Brown, Director of the Chicago Department of Public Health, Office of Substance Abuse Policy & Programs.

Workshop topics ranged from “Community Assessment & Analysis of Issues” to “Building Coalitions through Effective Communications.” One of the most notable sessions was the four-day “Coalition Boot Camp.” Participants learned about the complete range of coalition management including how to develop partnerships and conduct assessments, issue analysis, community action and intervention, and finally evaluation and sustainability.

The next Mid-Year Training Institute will take place at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge Resort and Spa in Phoenix, Arizona, July 25-28, 2005.

Photos, starting from the top: Mid-Year attendees participate in a “ride-along” with Chicago Police; Gen. Dean and Carl Mongiovi of Phamatech, inc. at the Soldier Field reception; Mid-Year attendees at a workshop.



Audio Teleconference Series Hosted by CADCA’s National Coalition Institute

This free training series was developed by the Institute to address growing substance abuse problems for community anti-drug coalitions. Through these interactive conference calls, participants have the opportunity to hear presentations from experts in the field, discuss the issues, and share information and experiences. Past teleconferences covered the growing problem of Methamphetamine production, distribution and use in rural America, and reducing underage drinking at the community level. Archived teleconferences are available at www.coalitioninstitute.org under Training and Technical Assistance. Upcoming topics include:

Connecting the Dots: Coalitions as Partners in Treatment and Recovery
September 23, 2004,
3:00 pm - 4:15 pm E.T.

Coalitions Working with Substance Abuse in the Workplace: The High Price of Doing Nothing
October 19, 2004,
3:00 pm - 4:15 pm E.T.

To register, visit www.udetc.org/CADCA_registration.asp or call Amy at (800) 542-2322, ext 240.

DEA: A Law Enforcement Partner for Community Coalitions

Catherine Harnett, Chief, Demand Reduction Programs, Drug Enforcement Administration

In communities across America—and in over fifty countries around the world—DEA Special Agents and support staff conduct complex drug investigations and enforce the drug laws of our nation. As we target sophisticated trafficking and money laundering organizations to ultimately reduce the supply of drugs, we are also working in hundreds of communities to reduce the demand for drugs. DEA’s commitment to, and participation in, drug prevention efforts is a source of pride. We also feel it is a critical contribution to the well-being of our country, our communities and our children.

DEA’s Demand Reduction program was established in the mid-1980’s by Administrator Jack Lawn, and it has evolved through the years to become one of DEA’s most important efforts to assist communities in the fight against drugs. DEA’s current Administrator, Karen Tandy, addressed CADCA’s National Leadership Forum earlier this year and spoke from the heart about her commitment to re-energize the partnership between DEA and community coalitions to change attitudes and reduce drug use across America. The continuation of DEA’s Demand Reduction program is due, in large part, to the support we’ve received from coalitions coast to coast.

Under the leadership of DEA Administrator Karen Tandy, DEA’s Demand Reduction program has taken several steps forward, enabling DEA to be an even greater partner to community coalitions. Through her efforts, and the commitment of Beverly Watts Davis, the Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), DEA is now a full participant in the Governors’ Prevention Councils as advisors on the Strategic Prevention Framework grants. Through this process, DEA will be able to provide the councils with up-to-date information on drug trends and enforcement activities to help states identify areas where prevention resources are most critical. She has also invited coalitions, scientists, doctors and members of families touched by

drug abuse to stand side-by-side with DEA at press conferences announcing the results of enforcement operations, giving others a chance to talk about the impact of drugs on a given community.

DEA’s thirty-one Demand Reduction Coordinators (DRCs), the majority of whom are DEA Special Agents, work with communities large and small to make a difference. Community coalitions are the key to many of DEA’s activities—whether it is raising public awareness about the dangers of methamphetamine, providing objective information on the implications of legalization initiatives on communities or working with parents, educators and the clergy to reduce drug use. Our work with coalitions is a force multiplier in every sense, benefiting both communities and law enforcement.

The DRCs are dedicated to the mission of drug prevention, even if it means being away from enforcement assignments for several years. Some DRCs are responsible for prevention activities in two or more states (and even some U.S. territories), and others support coalitions in major metropolitan areas. Each program is tailored to meet the particular needs and opportunities of the local area, with DEA providing its specialized expertise in enforcement and intelligence.

The range of DEA’s collaboration with community coalitions reflects the diverse nature of the coalitions themselves and the complexity of the nation’s drug problems. In some states—for instance, Texas, where there are three DEA Field Divisions—DRCs collaborate on state-wide coalition initiatives. Our Dallas and Houston DRCs, Michelle Deaver and Dawn Mathis, participate in the Texas Summit Committee which is comprised of individuals representing education, law enforcement, business and industry and are committed to solving the state’s drug crisis through prevention, education, intervention, treatment, criminal justice and public/private participation. Another joint initiative includes participation in the Partnership for a Drug

Our work with coalitions is a force multiplier in every sense, benefiting both communities and law enforcement.

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DEA: A Law Enforcement Partner for Community Coalitions *(continued from page 3)*

Free Texas advisory board. The purpose of the organization is to help kids and teens reject substance abuse by influencing the attitudes of young people, and the coalition consists of members from the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Workers Assistance Program, San Antonio Fighting Back, Youth Advocacy Program, Greater Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Drug-Free Business Houston and the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition.

As a member of the Utah Council for Crime Prevention, DRC Aaron Raty participates in many activities, including the methamphetamine initiative which is focusing on Drug Endangered children. In Montana, DEA's DRC Dan Dunlap has worked with SOAR—Students Organized Against Risk—for five years. Students from Billings volunteer to attend meetings at which law enforcement, treatment and prevention specialists discuss the value of a drug-free life.

In Michigan, Rich Isaacson is working with community coalitions such as the Washtenaw County Community Partnership, the Detroit Empowerment Zone Coalition, and the Troy Community Coalition in their efforts to stop the legalization of marijuana in Ann Arbor and Detroit. He also briefed the Macomb County Interfaith Prevention Coalition Annual Drug Trend Conference on local drug use trends; ONDCP Deputy Director Mary Ann Solberg also spoke to the group.

St. Louis DRC, Shirley Armstead, is a board member of the Committed Caring

Faith Communities (CCFC) which holds an annual Addictions Academy, a 32 hour substance abuse course for clergy, congregation members and representatives from community-based faith organizations in Missouri. Graduates from the Academy have gone on to begin their own ministries, to study to become certified substance abuse counselors.

Chris Tolley, DEA's Demand Reduction Coordinator in Hawaii, works with the Coalition for a Drug Free Lanai.



This summer, DEA and the Coalition brought *Sassy & G Magazine* to the island to conduct a drug-free beach clean-up and a youth surf clinic which will spin-off into a surf competition. DRC Tolley also provides DEA's drug trend information to community audiences in the state.

Working to highlight the dangers of methamphetamine, DRC Milt Galanos in Louisville has assisted the Lifeskills Prevention Center, which is associated with the Champions Group for a Drug-Free

Kentucky. Warren County citizens will be provided with information on methamphetamine labs, encouraging them to report suspicious activity to law enforcement through a news bulletin which utility companies have agreed to distribute with monthly bills.

Meth is also a significant problem in Oregon, and Bill Etter, DEA's DRC in Portland, works closely with numerous state, city and local coalitions to address the state's drug problems. The DRC has supported the Oregon Partnership's high school level methamphetamine awareness project which resulted in the production of a video documentary. Other efforts include working with the Clatskanie Together Coalition and the Mount Hood Coalition Against Drug Crime's Red Ribbon campaign.

In many places, Nashville, for instance, DEA's Demand Reduction Coordinators work with other organizations responsible for creating community coalitions. In a recent ceremony, DRC Jim Holland presented Pam White (Nashville Prevention Partnership) and Lt. Colonel Robert Murphy of the Tennessee National Guard's Counterdrug Division with a certificate of appreciation for their efforts to build community coalitions across the state which culminated in the creation of CADCAT—Community Anti-Drug Coalitions Across Tennessee.

And in major cities—Phoenix, Philadelphia, New York and Washington, D.C.—DRCs are working with various urban and suburban groups to reduce drug abuse. Tom Ivarie, DRC in Phoenix, was

appointed to the Governor's Drug and Gang Policy Council which is charged with developing a strategic prevention framework for Arizona. He is also a member of the Mayor's Substance Abuse Committee which is currently involved in the issue of student drug testing. Additionally, DRC Ivarie is working with the Elks organization on teen prevention efforts.

In Philadelphia, Carl Giardinelli works with coalitions such as the Black Clergy, CADE (Corporate Alliance for Drug Education) and others through the Weed and Seed network. And in New York City, Erin McKensie-Mulvey and others in the DEA New York Division are working with educators and community groups to provide support for city-wide prevention efforts.

Earlier this year, DEA's Washington Division and Headquarters representatives co-sponsored a Drug and Violence Conference with the Route 202 Coalition in Prince George's County, Maryland. In addition to the hundreds of coalition members, key state delegates and representatives from the Governor's office were briefed on the drug problem which affects one of Maryland's largest counties.

These are but a few examples of what DEA is doing on a daily basis in towns and cities across America. DEA could not successfully accomplish its critical mission to reduce the supply of drugs without the help and commitment of community coalitions. We will continue to work side by side with CADCA's members to make communities safer and to provide DEA's unique law enforcement expertise to help coalitions around the country. ■

Online Prevention Course Helps Undermine Underage Drinking

by Brandon Busted and Cathey Wise, Outside the Classroom

Fact: Alcohol is the leading drug of choice for teens across the country.



Despite this, until recently, we have lacked an evidence-based prevention method that can help our youth truly understand the implications of using alcohol. This understanding is critical to their ability to make safer, healthier decisions.

For over three years, Outside the Classroom has worked with colleges across the country, providing more than 100,000 students with an online, non-opinionated, science-based prevention program called AlcoholEdu for College.

The results have been phenomenal. On campuses where all first-year students are required to take AlcoholEdu for College:

- Abstainers increase
- High-risk drinking practices decrease
- Negative health and academic consequences associated with drinking decrease

Now, high schools have access to the same kind of prevention program. In January, Outside the Classroom and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) launched AlcoholEdu for High School, a new version of AlcoholEdu designed specifically for high school students. Like our college course, AlcoholEdu for High School is a Web-based, interactive program that incorporates proven prevention techniques with essential, science-based alcohol education.

AlcoholEdu for High School includes three 30-minute sessions, featuring peer-to-peer discussion that does not preach or "speak down" to students. Using the latest prevention research, the course instead engages students with knowledge about how alcohol affects the mind and body, reinforcing positive messages with interactive exercises.

Available for use in class or as homework, the program encourages responsible decision-making and scholastic achievement – results that can reduce drop-out rates and prevent alcohol-related deaths and injuries.

The course is already in use at several high schools around the country. Preliminary results are encouraging – suggesting that the course decreases approval of underage drinking, increases the rate of abstinence and decreases the percentage of students who have consumed alcohol on more than one occasion in the past week.

For more information about AlcoholEdu for High School and to access a FREE course demo, contact Cathey Wise at 469-420-4554 or at wise@outsidetheclassroom.com. ■



CADCA AND COALITIONS:
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JANUARY 11-13, 2005 OFFICIAL FORUM DATES

WATCH FOR UPDATED INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.CADCA.ORG AND OUR COALITIONS ONLINE NEWSLETTER.

Coalitions

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