

# UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**ONGOING:** Join a committee! The Volunteer Committee still needs additional volunteers. We also have a NEW COMMITTEE – The Rx Prevention Commercial Committee.

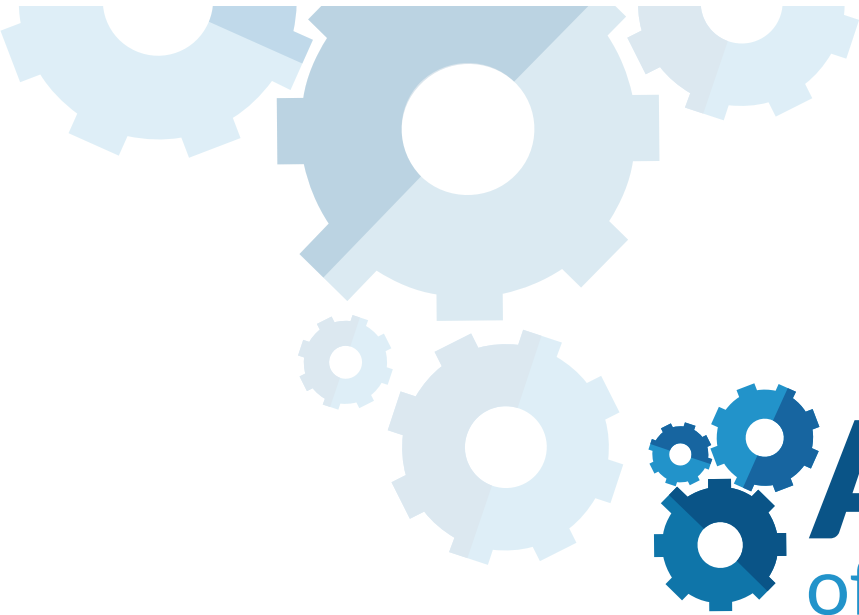
**ONGOING:** Nicotine Task Force. Interested in supporting tobacco and vaping prevention in our community? Contact Stacey at [stacey@asapofanderson.org](mailto:stacey@asapofanderson.org) to join the Nicotine Task Force.

**APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup>:** Clean-up at Cedar Hill Park 5:00PM to 7:00PM. Oak Ridge, TN.

**APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>:** National DEA Take Back Day 10:00AM to 2:00PM. Locations vary. 1 hour shifts available.

**MAY 4<sup>TH</sup>:** Tobacco-Free Movie Night in Bissell Park. Exact time TBD. Oak Ridge, TN.

Contact Jennifer at [jennifer@asapofanderson.org](mailto:jennifer@asapofanderson.org) if you are interested in any of these opportunities.



**ASAP**  
of Anderson

## Quarterly Newsletter

MARCH 2019

*Our mission is to prevent and reduce substance misuse among youth and adults in Anderson County.*

**(865) 457-3007 | [ASAPofAnderson.org](http://ASAPofAnderson.org)**

## SUBSTANCE DATA BYTES

The 2018 Pride Survey results are now available. Students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade were surveyed at all three school systems in the community – Anderson County Schools, Clinton City Schools, and Oak Ridge Schools. Major components covered in the survey include student behaviors related to drug use; student perceptions about drug use; student mental and physical health; vehicle safety; school climate; family life; and risk and protective factors. For past 30-day use, reported use varied by type of substance; 6.4% of students reported use of tobacco, 7.0% reported alcohol use; 5.6% reported marijuana use; and 1.6% reported misuse of a prescription drug (Pride, 2018). We’ve seen a large increase in use of Electronic Nicotine Delivery System (ENDS), such as e-cigarettes and vaping devices. For past 30-day use, 11.8% of students reported using e-cigarettes. Overall, 12<sup>th</sup> grade students report the highest percentage of use across all surveyed substances (Pride 2018, Figure 1.). Compared to 2016, our rates of 30-day substance misuse among our 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students is the lowest in recorded history for alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana, a direct result of the great work of our volunteers and the significant collaboration among community partners in Anderson County.

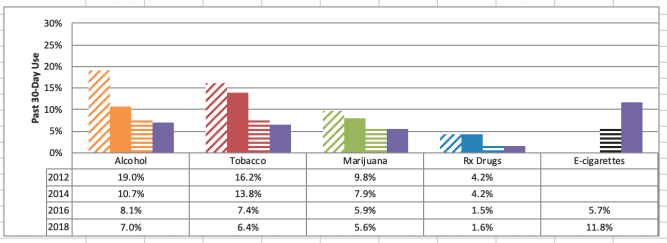


Figure 1: Reported Past 30-Day Use by Grade Level, Pride 2018



101 S. Main Street, Suite 465  
Clinton, TN 37716-3619  
Return Service Requested

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

### ASAP Community Appreciation Banquet

ASAP hosted their 5<sup>th</sup> annual Community Appreciation Banquet on March 1<sup>st</sup>. We celebrated community leaders who have worked diligently over the past year to raise awareness for substance misuse prevention. In addition, we celebrated the culmination of a year of coalition work and the volunteers who are the boots on the ground in Anderson County when it comes to prevention.

Our volunteers have accomplished a tremendous amount of work toward saving lives from the consequences of substance misuse over the past year. With over 2,000 collective volunteer hours, double what was generated in 2017, our volunteers engaged in policy advocacy, changed consequences for substance misuse, provided information, increased skills among local parents and professionals, reduced barriers by organizing medication disposal opportunities, and provided support to adolescents and seniors. You, our volunteers, continue to amaze me every day with your dedication.



2019 Ally of the Year Candidates (from left to right) Chief Robin Smith, Shelby Haun, Tribby Kelly, Lisa Downard, Rick Meredith, and Sam Turner



John Kelsey with Stephanie Strutner accepting the John Kelsey IMPACT Award



Wendy Williams with Stephanie Strutner accepting the Lifetime Ally Award



Stephanie Strutner awarding Prevention Power Partner award to Dr. Tim Parrott, Greg Deal, and Anderson County School Board members



Stephanie Strutner with Youth Ambassadors (left to right) Audrey Bufton, Rosalia Otaduy-Ramirez, Merritt Philpot, and Manshi Patel (via FaceTime)



Coalition members receiving their Volunteer Hour Awards

## RECENT HAPPENINGS

### Advocacy and More!

In early February, coalition members and staff travelled to Washington D.C. to join over 2,800 substance misuse prevention specialists and advocates from across the country for CADCA's 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Leadership Forum.



Coalition Members and Staff with Senators Alexander and Blackburn

In Late February, ASAP continued their month of advocacy in Nashville, TN with state legislators. Coalition members, staff, and youth ambassadors joined coalitions across the state for Prevention Alliance of Tennessee (PAT) Day on the Hill.



Youth Ambassadors in the Senate Hearing Room at the State Capitol



Coalition Members, Staff, and Ambassadors with Lt. Governor McNally

ASAP continues to work closely with health professionals to advocate for prevention in the healthcare field.



Behavioral Aspects of Pain Management Training at Methodist Medical Center, March 5th

*Read full articles on our website or in our e-newsletter*

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**RICK MEREDITH,**  
Anderson County  
Chamber of Commerce

This month for our Member Spotlight we are ecstatic to feature our 2019 Ally of the Year, Rick Meredith. Rick has had leadership roles in community development and service for over 20 years. He is currently the President of the Anderson County Chamber of Commerce. He is also serving his second term on the Anderson County Commission and is a member of the Clinton Rotary Club. Rick is a

strong advocate for ASAP and went above and beyond to raise funds for our record breaking Ally of the Year campaign this year. This is just one of many examples of his and the Anderson County Chamber's support for substance misuse prevention in our community.

Follow ASAPofAnderson on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to see Spotlight Videos!



*Thank you*  
**TO OUR SUPPORTERS**

Amazon Smile  
Kroger Rewards

St. Marks UMW  
TECC  
Timely Topics Club

TopShelf  
Wendy Williams

Special thanks to everyone who donated to our  
Ally of the Year Campaign!

If you would like to support ASAP,  
visit [ASAPofAnderson.org](http://ASAPofAnderson.org) for more information.