

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

Anderson County Youth Look to the Future and a Tobacco-Free Anderson County

Many of ASAP's Youth Coalition members from Anderson County and Clinton High Schools have been standing up as role models for their incumbent youth community members. The youth coalition has held student panels for 6th grade students at Clinton, Lake City and Norwood Middle Schools on the dangers of tobacco use. The youth coalition will also conduct student panels for 6th grade students at Clinton, South Clinton and North Clinton Elementary Schools. During these panels ASAP Youth Coalition members are given the chance to influence the entire 6th grade class by discussing who they are, why they choose to be tobacco-free and encouraging their younger counterparts to join them in being "ONE" who chooses not to use tobacco products. The panels have been successful, initiating thoughtful questions, and reflecting sincere concern from the 6th graders. The discussions between the students have been both informative and entertaining. "It has been amazing to see such inspired youth making a real impact on their community," says Stacey Pratt, ASAP Project Coordinator.

To further their I Am ONE campaign initiatives, ACTV Channel 95 worked with Youth Coalition members to film a public service announcement (PSA) highlighting that they are part of the 84% of Anderson County Students who choose not to use tobacco products and encouraging others to join them. According to Reagan Wolfe, Clinton High School Junior, "It was an honor to be asked to be a part of the I Am One campaign. I really enjoyed doing the student panel and PSA, it was a great opportunity for me to be a role model to a younger generation and fellow classmates." Groups have also been visiting local tobacco outlets to provide them with the new 2014 age verification materials and reiterate the important message of not selling tobacco products to minors. With Kick Butts Day this March, the Youth Coalition hopes to encourage everyone in Anderson County to #ChooseNotToUse tobacco products or kick the habit if they are using. For tips on staying or becoming tobacco free or for more information about the ASAP Youth Coalition, visit www.ASAPofAnderson.org or call 865-457-3007.

www.ASAPofAnderson.org



ASAP
QUARTERLY:
Prevention Matters

Newsletter

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Stephanie A. Strutner, MPH, Executive Director

NATIONAL RETAILER, ASAP COALITION DRAW ATTENTION ON
NEGATIVE HEALTH OUTCOMES ASSOCIATED WITH TOBACCO USE

Last month, CVS Caremark, one of the country's largest drug store chains, in an unprecedented step, announced it planned to cease selling tobacco products, including cigarettes, by October of this year. As many corporate pharmacies are offering walk-in clinics and other health care options, this move is an attempt to set a healthy standard, modeling good behavior. According to the New York Times, the company estimated its decision would reduce approximately \$2 billion in sales; however, it is a small percentage of the overall \$123 billion in sales recorded in 2012.

"We have about 26,000 pharmacists and nurse practitioners helping patients manage chronic problems like high cholesterol, high blood pressure and heart disease, all of which are linked to smoking," said Larry J. Merlo, chief executive of CVS. "We came to the decision that cigarettes and providing health care just don't go together in the same setting."

Currently, the company does not sell electronic cigarettes, a new nicotine delivery product gaining in popularity, but said it was waiting on the Food and Drug Administration to make a decision on whether they would be regulated.

Smoking is a causative factor in a significant number of premature deaths in the United States and accounts for 33 percent of all deaths from cardiovascular disease (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2008). The Surgeon General has extensively reviewed relevant evidence and issued stern warnings of tobacco use.

Worldwide, more than 1 in 10 deaths in 2000 were attributed to smoking (Ezzati et al. 2005).

While national trends suggest tobacco use is dropping across the country, local statistics illustrate a picture. Currently, 14 percent of 6th, 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students surveyed locally report using cigarettes in the past 30 days at an average age of onset of 12.4 years. Among 12th grade students, 34 percent reported using in the past 30 days; the increase in prevalence of use between 8th grade and 10th grade and again between 10th grade and 12th grade are each significant (2012 Risk and Protective Factor Questionnaire).

Addressing tobacco use is a great step in the right direction for communities. Recently, the ASAP coalition chose to address underage tobacco use as a priority. In partnership with the Anderson County Health Department, the ASAP Youth Coalition and Coordinated School Health, expect to see a focus placed on promoting healthy lifestyle choices free from tobacco and second-hand smoke in our community.

For free smoking cessation resources, call the Tennessee Tobacco Quit Line at 1-800-QUIT-NOW or visit www.tnquitline.com.





ASAP UPDATES:

- Operation Medicine Cabinet, held on February 22, 2014 at ORPD, netted 189.4 pounds of medicine
- The Operation Rx permanent medicine disposal bin installed at CPD collected 45.0 pounds during December, 41.2 pounds during January, and 43.6 pounds in February
- ASAP Coalition Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at First Baptist Church in Clinton at noon in room 104. **Please join us!**

ALLY ACCOUNT:



Submitted by: **Jake Wade**

Halfway through my sophomore year, my athletic director, Garry Terry, asked me to be a part of the “I Am One” team. That meant I was able to go to the elementary schools and talk about the positives of being substance abuse free. Being on the “I Am One” team opened the door for me to be asked to join the ASAP Youth Coalition. As a member of the youth coalition, I went to the Tennessee Teen Institute where I learned leadership and prevention skills. The skills I learned allowed me to come back to my community and talk to my peers of all ages about the dangers of substance abuse and the benefits of staying substance abuse-free.

The reason I keep going from school to school is because I care deeply about this town. I know the problems and pressure substance abuse brings so I feel like I have an obligation to change it. The students I talk to are the next generation of citizens and I feel I need to do everything I can to make the community they grow up in a better place. I want them to have a life worth living.

Joining the youth coalition can open up so many doors as an individual. I have learned skills to help steer youth into becoming the people they want to be and I have encouraged adults to make sure they provide a life that is worth growing up in for their children. ASAP has taught me so much and has groomed me into the individual I am today. To help repay them I strive to make my community worth living in and continue to help stop substance abuse in Anderson County.

NOTES:

The Underage Drinking Task Force meeting is on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Board Room on the 5th floor of the Robert Jolley Building in Clinton (101 South Main Street). For more information about the Underage Drinking Task Force and its activities, please contact Michael Foster, Prevention Coordinator with ASAP at (865) 457-3007 or Michael@ASAPofAnderson.org.

Thanks to our donors!

Wendy Williams

Thanks to our Red Ribbon Rivalry Supporters!

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Say ‘Ow Tattoo
Clinton Drug Store
Marathon
Powell-Clinch Utility District
Hoskins Drug Store
Ace Hardware
Smart Cutz
Icon Market
Anderson Co. Schools Central Office Employees
Anderson Co. Early Head Start/Head Start Employees

RECENT HAPPENINGS:



RED RIBBON RIVALRY RAISES AWARENESS, GENERATES FUNDS

The 2014 Red Ribbon Rivalry was an outstanding success. Awareness for substance abuse prevention was increased throughout Anderson County through proclamations in Clinton, Oak Ridge, Lake City, Oliver Springs, Norris and Anderson County as well through many local businesses and youth selling red ribbons and spreading the message about prevention. Clinton High School held on to their title as the Red Ribbon Rivalry champions, raising an impressive \$635 during the event. Anderson County High School students battled hard and are looking forward to a rematch next year. This year drew more business participation than ever before and the new partnership with Git ‘n Go Market caught many community members’ attention with their windows full of red ribbons. Congressman Chuck Fleischmann even stopped in to purchase his own red ribbon to show his support for the great strides the coalition is making in the community. In the business competition, Carrie Muse from Git ‘n Go #2 came in first with Misti Lewis from Git ‘n Go #1 in a close second. All funds raised will remain here in Anderson County and directly support primary prevention efforts.



Supporting the Red Ribbon Rivalry, Congressman Chuck Fleischmann stopped by Git ‘N Go Market to make a donation to substance abuse prevention. He is joined by Stephanie Strutner, Executive Director of ASAP of Anderson County and William Baine, CEO of Git ‘N Go Market.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE BYTES:

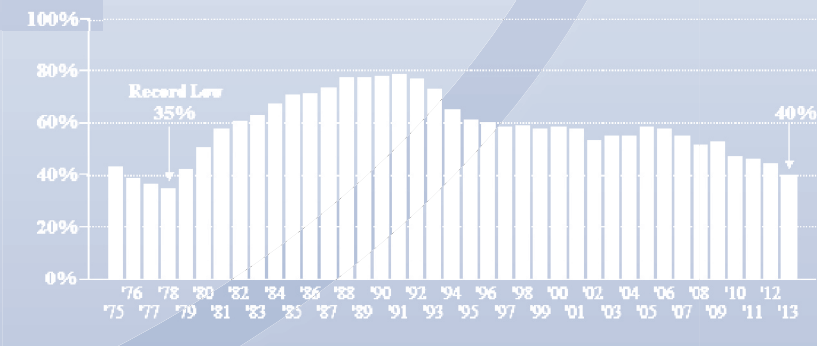


12th Graders Perceived Risk of Marijuana Use at Lowest Level Since 1978

According to the most recent data from the national Monitoring the Future (MTF) study, the percentage of 12th grade students who perceive regular marijuana use to be a great risk continues to decrease. After peaking in the early 1990s, the perceived risk of physical or other harm from regular marijuana use decreased for a few years, and then leveled off for a decade before beginning to decline again in 2007. From 2005 to 2013, the percent of 12th graders seeing great risk from being a regular marijuana user has fallen from 58 percent to 40 percent. That is the lowest point since the record low of 35 percent in 1978.

Today, 1 in 15 (6.5%) of high school seniors is a daily or near-daily marijuana smoker. Another interesting finding this year is that of the 12th graders who say they have used marijuana in the past 12 months and live in a state that has passed medical marijuana laws, 34 percent say one of their sources for marijuana is another person’s medical marijuana prescription: 6 percent say they get it from their own prescription. It appears, therefore, that state medical marijuana laws provide an additional avenue of accessibility to the drug for teens.

Percentage of U.S. 12th Grade Students Who Perceive a Great Risk of Harm (Physical or other) from Regular Marijuana Use, 1975-2013*



*This questions was “How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways) if they smoke marijuana regularly?” The available responses were: 1) no risk, 2) slight risk, 3 moderate risk, 4) great risk, and 5: can’t say, drug unfamiliar.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR and ASAP from University of Michigan, “American Teens More Cautious About Using Synthetic Drugs,” Monitoring the Future National Press Release, December 18, 2013. Available online at <http://www.monitoringthefuture.org/data/13data.html#2013data-drugs>.