

Spring 2011 Prevention Campaign Parents Who Host Lose the Most



Promote our spring prevention-based campaign : *“Parents Who Host Lose the Most: Don't be a party to teenage drinking. It's against the law.”* Help us spread this message with a yard sign or banner.

Nearly, 22% of 10,883 Lorain County teens surveyed in 2009 said they get their alcohol from someone else—and 3% of the time it's their own parents. Parents and caregivers

might think that letting kids party at home is fine as long as they hold onto the car keys. But it's illegal to serve alcohol to your child's friends in your own home if they are under 21. Even if their friends say they have their parents' permission, it's illegal. Alcohol poisoning can lead to asphyxiation and death.

Ohio's social host law makes it illegal to serve alcohol in your home to friends of your child. You could face civil and criminal penalties; fines up to \$1,000, confiscation of property and even jail time. The kick-off is in late April—the start of

prom season—and runs until mid-June, when graduation parties and celebrations abound. In addition to yard signs and banners, we have fact cards, and parent pledge cards. Let's have yard signs blooming throughout the county. As part of the Parents Who Host campaign, a Town Hall on underage drinking will also be held on Thursday evening , April 28 at Faith Ministries Christian Center, 1306 Euclid Ave., Lorain.

Contact us for Parents Who Host materials: 440-282-9920; e-mail cgabe@lorainadas.org

Inside this issue:

Parents Who Host	1
Leadership Forum	1
Lorain City PRIDE	2
Resource Library	2
News & Trends	3
STOP Task Force	3
Prescription Drugs	4

Moving Forward at the 2011 National Leadership Forum

Coalition members from Communities That Care of Lorain County joined 2,800 community and coalition leaders from around the world in Washington D.C. at a National Leadership Forum in February.

LaTonya Fenderson, Janet Garcia – both Lorain parents and coalition members – attended the four-day forum along with Catherine Gabe, CTC coordinator. Workshops included everything from using Facebook to working with youth and hosting prescription drug take-backs.

National leaders addressed coalition members at Federal Town Hall meetings. Most leaders supported a public health approach, versus a criminal justice one. The Forum's theme was “Coalitions Moving Forward, Mapping the Future”.

“We are shaping and molding the future one day at a time,” said White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Director Gil Kerlikowske. He applauded the coalitions: “Because of the work you do, fewer young people are using and abusing drugs.”

Illicit drug use and prescription drug use is on the rise; of the 34,000 suicides a year, nearly a third involved substance abuse of some kind. Youth who have a depressive episode are twice as likely to use or abuse drugs or alcohol.

“The strategies of the past appear to have stalled out with generation next,” said Frances M. Harding, director for the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention with SAMHSA.

(continued on page 2)

Special Points of Interest:

- **Energy drinks may lead to alcohol dependence**
- **“How to Raise a Drug Free Kid”**
- **What's Up with Bath Salts**
- **Q & A About Marijuana**

Lorain City's PRIDE Initiative Going Strong



A \$5.6 million, four-year grant from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration is providing Lorain City residents access to screenings and referrals for short-term treatment, therapies, along with transportation to those services. Screenings began on Feb. 1 at various city agencies, churches and other public locations.

Because of the PRIDE Initiative, Lorain City School's high school students will have access to services to improve chances for a positive academic experience

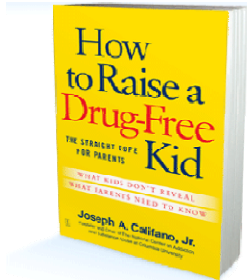
and increase their opportunities to complete high school. Residents can gain additional skills to secure employment, along with finding needed help and local support services.

Communities That Care of Lorain County has a collaborative role with this partnership to promote, educate and inform Lorain residents about this opportunity.

Lorain City is one of 3 cities nationally to receive the grant; residents are already accessing services. The effort is being heavily promoted

through a PRIDE Initiative Newsletter, billboards, newspaper articles, radio spots and more. PRIDE stands for Partners Realistically Integrating Durable Empowerment, whose message is: "Working Together for a Healthier Lorain." Brenda Taylor-Hines is the project director and can be reached for more information about the PRIDE Initiative and screenings by contacting her at 440-282-9920 or BTaylorHines@lorainadas.org

CTC's Resource Library



CTC's Resource Library is now open. The library is full of FREE materials for teens, parents, teachers, families. Topics of information on the impact of specific drugs (alcohol, marijuana, prescription drugs, addiction and recovery, etc), mental health issues, and more are available for personal and/or professional use.

Our newest resource is the book "How To Raise a Drug-Free Kid—The Straight Dope for Parents" written by Joseph A. Califano, Jr (Founder and chair of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University).

Stop in and browse through our library. You will find a wealth of information.

The Resource library is located at the Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Board of Lorain County, 4950 Oberlin Avenue, Lorain, Ohio. The library is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am—4:30 pm.

Leadership Forum (continued from page 1)

"Communities that are organized have lower drug use rates," said Sue Thau, public policy consultant with CADCA, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, which hosted the Leadership Conference.

The take-away messages of the four-day conference included:

Prevention works and substance abuse prevention reduces overall health care costs from a cascade of other problems including suicide, violence, highway deaths, depression and others.

Earlier intervention working with youth provides more opportunities to help them grow and thrive.

Prescription drug use is on a rapid rise.

Media exposure leads to drinking; advertising targets youth exposed to more ads per person than adults; alcohol advertising targets minority youth and boys

Advocacy works on the local, regional and national front. Members from CTC participated in a Capitol Hill day plenary. They later met with aides representing Senator Sherrod Brown,

Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur and Congresswoman Betty Sutton.

Coalition members carried the message to continue funding Drug Free Communities for the remainder of this fiscal year and through next federal fiscal year. Legislators count on constituents' input to relate the mood of the county on all levels—especially those that impact youth and families.

Communities That Care of Lorain County

4950 Oberlin Avenue
Lorain, OH 44053

Phone

440.282.9920

Fax

440.282.9928

Email

cgabe@lorainadas.org

Communities
That Care



CTC's Executive Committee meets monthly on the first Tuesday at 9:00. Meetings are held at 4950 Oberlin Avenue, Lorain, OH and are open to the public.

Communities That Care is a strong partnership within the community to help our youth face the many challenges ahead of them, including substance abuse (CTC's Mission).

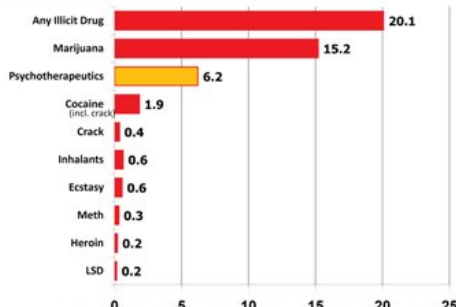
We're on the Web

www.ctcloraincounty.org

Prescription Drug Abuse

Prescription Drugs (Psychotherapeutics) Used Non-Medically Are Second Most Abused Drugs After Marijuana in the U.S.

Past Month Users, Ages 12 or Older (Millions)



Source: SAMHSA, 2008 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (September 2009).

Nationwide, prescription drugs the second most abused drug next to marijuana. Many prescription drugs are taken as directed by a medical professional. However, they are often too-easily accessible – often as readily available as a medicine cabinet. People may think that because they are legal, they are safer than illicit drugs. A recent study found those who are 12 and over reported using pain relievers non-medically in the past year and 56% got the drug(s) most recently used from a friend or relative.

Communities That Care of Lorain County is working with local law enforcement for collection and disposal of outdated and unused prescription medications. The coalition is working to educate the public and the medical community about this growing problem.

If you are interested in participating on the county's efforts regarding prescription drug abuse, contact Cathy Gabe at 282.9920 or email: cgabe@lorainadas.org

Communities That Care of Lorain County is a CADCA member and one of hundreds of Drug Free coalitions throughout the country. The coalition is funded, in part, through a five-year federal grant from the Office of National Drug Control Policy.