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SPOTLIGHT

A RESOURCE TOOL FOR THE PREVENTION OF UNDERAGE DRINKING

Do Teens Hear Us?

Yes and no. A recent report issued by SAMHSA summarized several national studies and offers both encouraging and discouraging information. Fewer adolescents reported exposure to substance abuse prevention messages in 2008 than 2007 (83.2% versus 77.9%) and participated in few extracurricular prevention programs (12.7% in 2002 versus 11.3% in 2007). So here is the good news: more teenagers talked with at least one parent about issues related to substance abuse compared to previous years (58.1% in 2002 versus 59.6% in 2007). Those who talk to a parent are significantly less likely to engage in underage drinking compared to their counterparts who do not have these conversations (16.2% versus 18.3%).



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“Good Samaritan” Policies and College Campuses

We all know that life-threatening consequences are a possibility when an intoxicated individual does not receive the appropriate emergency care. Oftentimes, especially with underage individuals, the call for medical assistance is not made because of the legal ramifications associated with underage drinking. This is one argument used in advocacy efforts to lower the Minimum Legal Drinking Age from 18 to 21.

Medical amnesty, or “good Samaritan”, policies have been adopted by some college campuses to encourage students to make that call for help when a friend has overdosed. These policies protect a student or campus organization from university sanctions for violations of alcohol and drug policies. They differ from campus to campus, but generally, they protect the following: the individual in distress, the person who seeks help for an intoxicated student, and a campus organization that calls on behalf of a member or a guest.



For more information, visit:

<http://www.higheredcenter.org/services/assistance/topics/medical-amnesty-and-good-samaritan-policies>

~One of Us~

Name: Vicki
Mixon

Title: Central Re-
gional Master
Trainer

Location:
DREAM, Inc.



The thing you love most about prevention: “I feel like I can actually make a difference.”

Favorite place to vacation: Yellowstone National Park

On a rainy day, I love to: Sit outside on a porch, listening to the rain on a tin roof

When I have spare time, I: Read and/or play with grandkids

Alcohol Awareness Month Spreads the Message!



Nicole Bilbo with Warren-Yazoo Mental Health conducted a game of “Jeopardy” with local students to educate them about underage drinking.



DREAM raised community awareness at “Think Before You Drink”, held at Northpark Mall. The event was well-attended and many thanks to those who helped make this happen!



Region 3 and the Lee County Sheriff’s Department hosted “Underage Drinking will Kill Your Thinking” to educate local students about the dangers of underage drinking.

What's Happening in Mississippi?

HOT TOPICS! HOT TOPICS!

There are still a few seats available for Dennis Embry's workshop on Wednesday, May 13th and for Jim Mosher's on Monday, June 29th!

These are excellent opportunities and not to be missed!

Email Debbie Bates at dbates@dreaminc.org for more info



Next meeting:

May 26th, 2009, 10 AM

Region 8 Mental Health Administrative Building

For more information, please contact Caroline Newkirk at cnewkirk@dreaminc.org

MADD's 1st Annual Underage Drinking Summit

When: THIS Friday, May 8th

Registration begins at 8 AM

Where: Jackson State University's E-Center on Raymond Road

Any summer plans in your area? Please let Caroline know so that she can help spread the news!