May, 2015

Pasco County
Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention

On the Inside

- Headlines
- Community Corner
- Research
- Spotlight

ASAP Mission:

"To develop, motivate, and encourage strategic relationships that reduce countywide risk factors, thereby preventing and decreasing substance abuse in a comprehensive and long-term manner that primarily impacts youth in the community ."

Call for Stories

If you have a story you'd like to share in the ASAP newsletter, please make sure to send it to Monica Rousseau at MRousseau@PascoASAP.com by the 10th of the month.

Contact Information:

Contact Monica Rousseau for more information on the ASAP Coalition:

- 7809 Massachusetts Avenue
  New Port Richey, FL 34653
- MRousseau@pascoasap.com
- 727-597-2284

Check us out online at **www.PascoASAP.com**

Check us out on Facebook! Search Pasco County Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention

Check us out on Twitter at: @ASAP_Pasco

HEADLINES

Next ASAP Meeting

The May ASAP meeting is cancelled due to the timing of the 4th annual drug prevention conference. The next ASAP meeting will be from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM on Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at the Land O' Lakes Community Center- 5401 Land O'Lakes Blvd. (US 41).

National Prevention Week #NPW2015

This week, May 18 – May 23, is National Prevention Week (NPW). NPW is an annual health observance to increase awareness of and action around substance abuse and mental health issues. Each day this week has a special theme. To learn more, look up the hashtag #NPW2015 or go to www.SAMHSA.gov/prevention-week

- Monday, May 18- Prevention of Tobacco Use
- Tuesday, May 19- Prevention of Underage Drinking and Alcohol Abuse
- Wednesday, May 20- Prevention of Opioid and Prescription Drug Abuse
- Thursday, May 21- Prevention of Illicit Drug Use and Youth Marijuana Use
- Friday, May 22 – Prevention of Suicide
- Saturday, May 23- Promotion of Mental Health and Wellness



HEADLINES (CONTINUED)

Substance Abuse Prevention Conference

If you haven't already done so- make sure to reserve your seat for the annual Substance Abuse Prevention Conference! So far, we have about 350 people registered and have great guest speakers attending, including Congressman Bilirakis, DCF Secretary Mike Carrol, Representative Amanda Murphy, Superintendent Browning, and many more. Please also join in on the conversation on social media by using the hashtag #PascoSOC2015. Together, we can Strengthen Our Community!

Shark Frenzy

On May 14, ASAP partnered with Anclote High School to host a town hall event at the Anclote High School gym. The event, titled *Shark Frenzy- a Rally for Pasco Youth*, was ASAP's kick-off event for National Prevention Week. Like National Prevention Week, the "frenzy", was designed to increase public awareness of, and action around, substance abuse and mental health issues. Shark Frenzy featured a community resource fair, a PSA recording by the CW44, and a panel discussion composed of local student and adult leaders.



The panel discussion included community leaders such as Chief Andrew Fossa, Jude Shawn Crane, Superintendent Kurt Browning, Colonel Jeff Harrington, and student leaders Kyle Bolling, Cassidy Wrixon, and Jesseca Powell.



The CW44 recorded students for a PSA, titled Pasco Promise, that will air across Tampa Bay this summer.

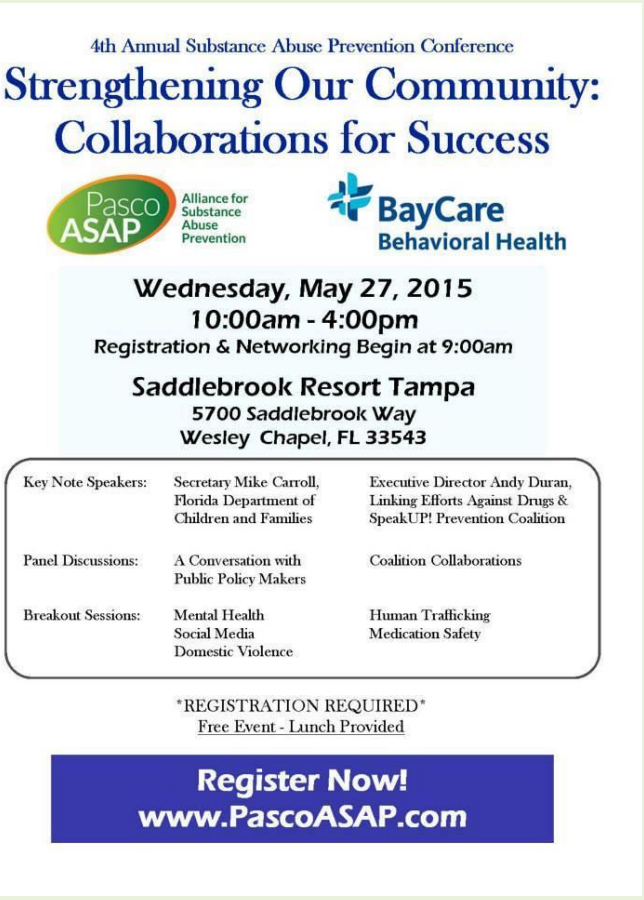
The highlight of the event was the youth speech provided by Caitlynn R., a student at PACE Center for Girls, who spoke about how substance abuse affected her life. "My mom is not a ***BAD*** person." she stated, "she was in a bad place and became addicted to drugs…Mental health and substance abuse are real problems and they can tear a family apart…. I hope that sharing my story will let people know that they are not alone and bring awareness to the community".

To help bring awareness about the intersection between mental health and substance abuse, or to help plan similar events as Shark Frenzy, please email Monica at Mrousseau@PascoASAP.com.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Upcoming Events



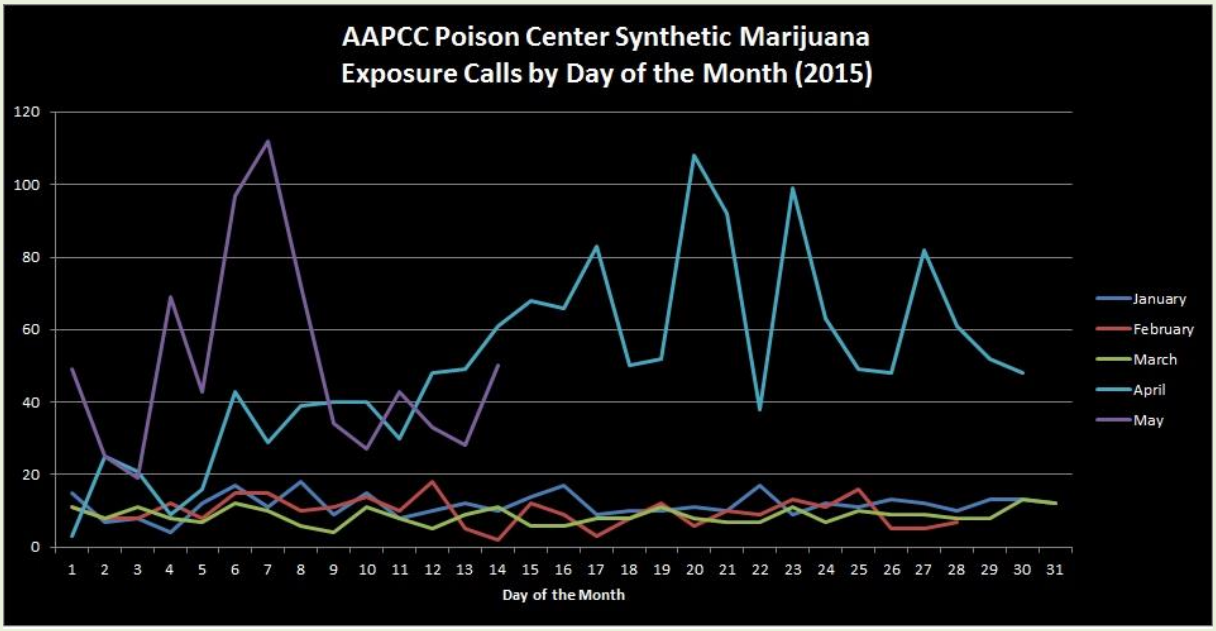


RESEARCH

AAPCC Notes Spike in Synthetic Marijuana Calls

Data gathered from the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) has noted a national spike in synthetic marijuana exposures. Poison centers received 2,668 synthetic marijuana calls in 2013, 3,680 calls in 2014, and 3,114 calls so far in 2015.

The numbers gathered by the AAPCC only reflect exposures to synthetic marijuana by individuals who experienced adverse effects from the drug and called, or had someone call, poison control for assistance. Although the numbers do not fully reflect the full prevalence of synthetic marijuana use, the data is a good marker for noting substance abuse patterns.



Data graphic is courtesy of American Association of Poison Control Centers http://www.aapcc.org/alerts/synthetic-marijuana/

Synthetic marijuana can be dangerous and life threatening. Side effects range from severe agitation and anxiety, to muscle spasms and seizures. If you see someone who you suspect is suffering from synthetic marijuana complications, contact your local poison control center at 1-800-222-1222. Poison Control centers are open 24-7 to help you decided if someone can be treated at home, or if that person needs formal medical treatment. If someone stops breathing, collapses, or has a seizure, call 9-11 immediately.

SPOTLIGHT

Missy Coyle receives new certification



Congratulations to Missy Coyle, who recently became certified to fit helmets for children and adults!

Missy, a member of the BayCare Community Health Activation (CHAT) Team, continues to work on improving the care that pregnant women receive in our community. She played an integral role with post-partum women being allowed to breastfeed at the Pasco County Jail and spends much of her time supporting events and initiatives of Healthy Start and ASAP's Substance Exposed Newborn Committee. Missy is also an advocate for improved access of mental health and substance abuse services among veterans and women in jail.