December, 2014

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 county risk factors and decrease substance abuse rates among youth and adults."

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: Community Corner

6th ASAP Annual Meeting and Brunch

Thank you to all of you who attended the ASAP Annual Meeting and Holiday Brunch! With over 50 attendees, the event served as an invigorating opportunity to honor one another for our successes over the last year. The collaboration among all of our members has resulted in a nationally recognized medication safety research project, thousands of pounds of recovered drugs, and widely recognized media campaigns (just to name a few successes). If you were unable to attend the brunch, please make sure to see the "Spotlight" section for a few pictures. For more pictures, please make sure to check the ASAP Facebook page.

Roundtable with Congressman Bilirakis

ASAP's next big upcoming event is today! Congressman Bilirakis is hosting a conversation with Congressman Murphy and our community about mental health and substance abuse. The Roundtable event is at 1 p.m. today (Tuesday, December 15, 2014) at Rasmussen College, 18600 Fernview St., Land O'Lakes. Although the Roundtable will include a discussion among selected panelists, a large part of the event will be dedicated to hearing thoughts and opinions from audience members. Given ASAP's experience in substance abuse prevention, we hope ASAP is well represented and active in the discussion.



COMMUNITY CORNER: PAST EVENTS

Pasco County Legislative Delegation



On December 3, 2014, Pasco ASAP members Leslie Gervase and Monica Rousseau presented past successes and future ASAP goals to Pasco's state senators and representatives. Mykenzie Robertson, representing the Tobacco Free Partnership of Pasco County, also addressed the delegates. Presenting the coalition's hard work to key decision makers is vital to ASAP's sustainability. If you are interested in participating in future educational meetings with local and state decision makers, please email MRousseau@PascoASAP.com.

MAD Candlelight Vigil

The MADD candlelight vigil was held at The First Baptist Church in Temple Terrace on December 4, 2014. The vigil was truly something spectacular with a turnout of over 300 people and a massive amount of support by local law enforcement. The vigil included a performance by the children's choir of First Baptist Church and a performance by the MADD contemporary choir. The walk of memories was an unforgettable sight; lit patrol vehicles accompanied by their officers surrounded attendees of the MADD candlelight vigil in their silent walk of remembrance. Following the walk of memories, several people volunteered to share their touching stories of loss. MADD was able to honor all of those whose lives have been affected by impaired drivers while offering support to anyone in need. Even with a crowd of over 300 people, MADD was able to set a very family friendly and intimate ambiance for all of those in attendance. To become involved in next MADD Candlelight Vigil, please contact becky.gage@madd.org

The Great Escape Race

The Great Escape, hosted on December 8 to benefit the Pasco Sheriff's Office, was a great success. The Great Escape encompassed 12 obstacles on a 5k course and included a K9 presentation, ceremony, food, and family fun. Among other participants, one of ASAP's member organizations, BayCare Behavioral Health, had two teams to participate in the event and are featured in the picture to the right



The Pasco Sheriff's Office is projecting May 2015 as the tentative month for the next race. Everyone over the age of 16 years old is welcome to participate in this event! Anyone who is interested in helping support for the next Great Escape Race please contact Terry Phayre from the Pasco Sheriff's Office at TPhayre@pascosheriff.org or Heather O'Dell from BayCare at Heather.O'Dell@baycare.org.

Drug Free Communities Grantee Meeting



Chrissie Parris and Monica Rousseau represented Pasco ASAP at the Drug Free Communities New Grantee Meeting in Washington DC earlier this December. At the meeting, members learned more about program sustainability, evidence based strategies, and working with media. After the meeting, Chrissie and Monica made most of their stay in DC by educating the offices of Senator Rubio, Senator Nelson, and Congressman Bilirakis about Pasco ASAP's work. Their meetings were met with great support.

COMMUNITY CORNER: UPCOMING EVENTS

Tools to Quit Smoking Cessation Classes by AHEC

If you're ready to quit tobacco

Help is FREE!

Class Schedule

Land O' Lakes Branch Library
Tuesday, December 16th, 2014
2:30pm-4:30pm
2818 Collier Parkway
Land O' Lakes, FL, 34639

Pasco County Health Department
Thursday, December 18th, 2014
1:00pm-3:00pm
10841 Little Road
New Port Richey, FL, 34653

Wesley Chapel Toyota
Monday, December 22nd, 2014
6:00pm-8:00pm
5300 Eagleston Blvd
Wesley Chapel, FL, 33543

New River Branch Library
Tuesday, December 30th, 2014
10:00am-12:00pm
34043 State Road 54,
Zephyrhills, FL, 33543

Registration Required: Please call
Gulfcoast North AHEC
Kadie Kluttz
813-929-1000 ext. 208
or kkluttz@gnahec.org

Class is FREE and open to the public!

- FREE - Nicotine Replacement Patches, Gum and Lozenges*
- FREE - Community, worksite, and clinic groups offered
- Covers all forms of tobacco

* While supplies last and if medically appropriate.

IQuit with AHEC.

Tobacco Free Florida.com

IQuit with AHEC is the in-person option of Tobacco Free Florida's 3 Free & Easy Ways to Quit. Call to Register.

Sponsored by: Gulfcoast North AHEC and the Florida Department of Health.

www.ahectobacco.com 813.929.1000

Get Covered, Stay Covered Health Fair

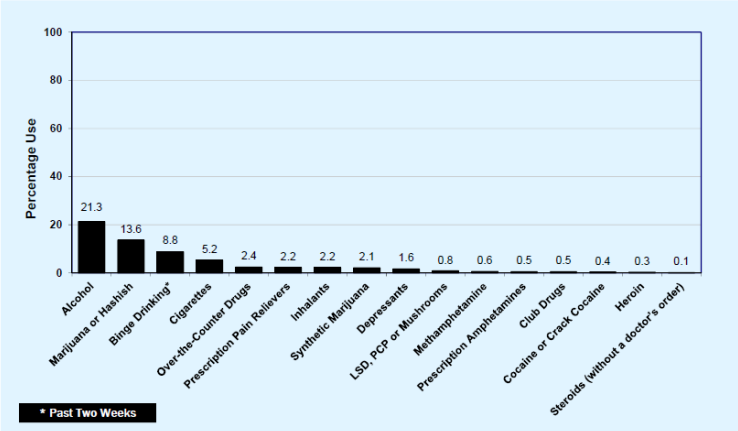
Please mark the date and plan to join Premier Community HealthCare Group for its second "Get Covered, Stay Covered Health Fair" on January 10, 2015 at the Land O' Lakes Library! Premier has teamed with Enroll America to identify the uninsured in the area and we are working hard to help them get covered and stay covered! For further event details and a registration form for your organization/facility to participate, please contact Yolanda Abarca Tijerina: (O): 352-518-2000 x 9227 (C) 813-454-2627 yatijerino@hcnetwork.org

RESEARCH

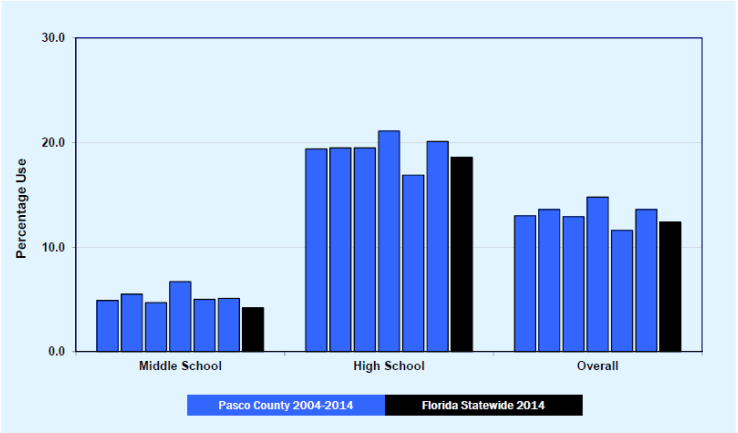
Local Data Obtained from Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey (FYSAS)

ASAP recently received the local FYSAS data. In the coming months, the new data will be compiled into a new Indicator Report. Until then, here are a few key findings from the new data:

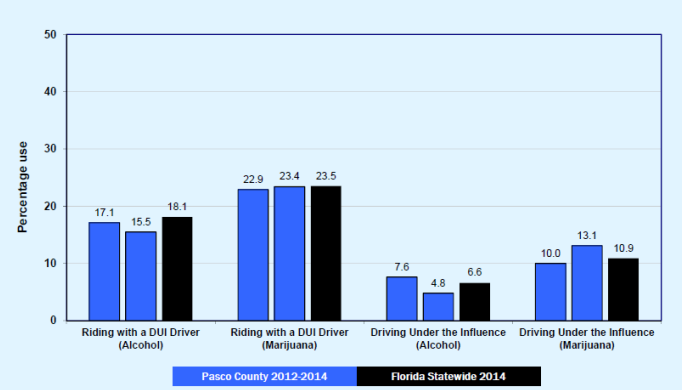
Graph 2 Past-30-day use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs among Pasco County students, 2014



Graph 10 Past-30-day marijuana use, Pasco County 2004-2014 and Florida Statewide 2014



Graph 13 DUI or riding with a driver under the influence, Pasco County 2012-2014 and Florida Statewide 2014



Note: DUI does not imply intoxication but only indicates use prior to driving.

SPOTLIGHT

Volunteers of the Year!

For those of you who were unable to attend the ASAP Annual Meeting and Brunch, please take a moment to read about our volunteers of the year, who have greatly helped us pursue our mission:



Tom Sheehan, Program Director of Operation PAR-MAPS Pasco, has been involved with the Substance Exposed Newborn Committee of ASAP since its inception. Tom has been involved in such key committee initiatives as the recommendation to Pam Bondi's Task Force on Substance Exposed Newborns that Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome become a reportable disease for the purposes of uniform data collection, the development of presentation to OB offices on the importance of screening pregnant women, the creation of a medication safety awareness campaign and he was invaluable during the planning of ASAP's 2013 annual conference.



Summer Robertson, the District Director from Congressman Bilirakis' office, has been an advocate for prevention and ASAP's work, a resource for policy change, and an active member of ASAP in initiatives. She never missed an opportunity to get ASAP in front of Congressman Bilirakis at events; she took the lead in contacting the White House to get news on our Drug Free Communities Grant Application and made sure ASAP was the first to know the status in her inquiries. She's has also offered her guidance and suggestions on moving the needle through policy change. Summer was not in attendance at the brunch; Mike Ciminna accepted the award on her behalf.