

ADAPT...news

January 2021

Welcome to 2021 and the first edition of ADAPT News! We all hoped that with the end of 2020 we might see the end of the turbulence that flavored the last 12 months in our country. So far, 2021 has not seen much improvement but that does not mean we can't continue our work to prevent and reduce youth drug and alcohol use. When we look at the common dedication we share, to create a better place to live, work and raise our kids, we find common ground – and purpose.

Taney County ADAPT (Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention Team) was created by caring people throughout the county who want to work together to create change in our community. Unhealthy trends and behaviors were identified through valid data collection, and ADAPT took action.

This is still our purpose. We will charge into 2021 with reinvigorated energy and laser focus on strengthening our coalition and aligning our efforts with the latest data-supported trends.

I hope you will enjoy this new tool to stay connected. Your feedback is welcome! Send to marlower@branson.k12.mo.us.

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Taney County ADAPT
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"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new." —Socrates

Dates to Remember

Upcoming...

February 1-4 – CADCA Leadership Forum *virtual*

February 26 – Coalition Meeting w/guest speaker Marianne Hark of Epiphany Community Services *virtual*

Member engagement...

February – Launch of new subcommittees – stay tuned

April 24 - Drug Safety & Take Back Event – date TBD

April – After prom event(s) support – stay tuned

Time to decide where you will plug in.

Not a member?

Email Shelly at marlower@branson.k12.mo.us



GO CAPS Students Shine

Going above and beyond

This year, due to the pandemic, it has been a challenge to engage with our youth. With social distance practices in place and cases of COVID-19 hitting closer to home every day, our youth prevention team efforts have stalled. But when asked, the GO CAPS students rose to the challenge.

It was a pleasure to work virtually with two students, Kendelle Creach and Joanna Lansman. After brainstorming on where they could plug into ADAPT's prevention work, they jumped into helping with the **Talk. They Hear You.** media campaign with both feet. They found partners in Papa Johns and Casey's General Markets who agreed to put campaign pieces on pizza delivery boxes in December.

Joanna and Kendelle didn't stop there. They also collaborated with Elevate Branson where the campaign pieces went out with bagged lunches two Thursdays during December. Their efforts reached a total of 1500 families and individuals.

In addition, the entire GO CAPS student class were recently trained as trainers to deliver the GenerationRx educational program to other students. The training was presented by Kristen Koch, a third-year pharmacy student at UMKC School of Pharmacy at MSU. Now that they are trained, they are poised to take the training to their peers and younger students.

The GenRx project is a response to the growing epidemic of prescription drug misuse among youth and young adults in our area and across the country. www.generationrx.org

The students have been so receptive of ADAPT projects, we have been invited to present to the class on prevention as a career choice.

Below: Joanna Lansman and Kendelle Creach



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

RECRUITING HELP WANTED RECRUITING



ADAPT is made up of a group of caring community members who have come together to reduce drug and alcohol misuse among Taney County youth. Parents, educators, business leaders and other concerned community members interested in becoming members of ADAPT are welcome to join us. Members care deeply about reducing and preventing drug and alcohol misuse through evidence-based strategies. Average volunteer time is 1-2 hours a month. Our primary focus areas are the reduction of alcohol and prescription drug use, but members contribute

based on their own interests in areas such as: marketing/media, local activities, youth leadership, researching best practices, information dissemination, community partnership development, income development and so much more. If you are interested, contact Shelly Marlowe at 870-480-7401 or marlower@branson.k12.mo.us

7 Strategies for Community Change

Individually Focused

1. Provide information
2. Build skills
3. Provide social support

Community Focused

4. Reduce barriers/enhance access
5. Change consequences/incentives
6. Alter the physical design of the environment
7. Change policy and rules