



The FCDAC STRATEGIZER

Leading the way to a
healthier Forsyth
County

January 2023 Volume 2 Issue 9

Receive Our Newsletter

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2023!



"The only person you should strive to be better than, is the person you were yesterday."
– Matty Mullins

FCDAC MOVING OUT IN 2023!

Coming February 8, 2023!
FULLCIRCLE YOUTH DRUG SUMMIT II

FullCircle is hosting a Drug Summit - Youth Substance Abuse Education Event on February 8, 2023, from 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at FullCircle, located at 433 Canton Road #301, Cumming, GA 30040.

The event attendees will get an insider's look into our schools through enlightening panel discussions facilitated by Forsyth County Commissioner and founder of FCDAC, Cindy Jones Mills. Students and parents will represent the panels. The event concerns parents and professionals in youth and substance prevention roles.

Please consider those in your sphere of

PLEASE JOIN US IN
THE 2ND ANNUAL

DRUG SUMMIT

Youth Substance Abuse Education Event



influence who might benefit from these panels and invite them to attend this extraordinary event! Hear and learn from the youth themselves **what is happening** with their peers and learn from parents what worked for them in a crisis.

PLAN TO COME AND BRING SOMEONE!

HOSTED BY FCDAC AND THE ATLANTA FULL CIRCLE PROGRAM.

► Commissioner Cindy Mills with a panel interview of youth in recovery and their Parents ► Benefits individuals who work with youth ► For professionals and parents only ► Education on signs and symptoms of drug use.

If you are interested in attending or tabling this event please email Rachel. (email attached below)

This event is crucial to help our community become educated on this pertinent topic. The best way to learn is from the source.

- **Event Is Free.**
- **Additional Parking at the top of the hill.**

<https://www.forsythcountydrugawarenesscouncil.org>

RSVP: rachel@unitedwayforsyth.com

CALL US FOR MORE INFO [\(480\)809-5361](tel:(480)809-5361)

When: February 8th 2023

Where: Full Circle Facility

433 Canton Rd. Suite
301
Cumming, GA 30040

Time: 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm



FCDAC sponsored the first Youth Summit at FullCircle on March 2, 2022. **The event, pictured left,** featured a six-student panel who brought the reality of their world and the results of their entering into risky behaviors using illicit drugs and prescriptions that weren't prescribed for them. Commissioner Mills facilitated the event at FullCircle to a standing-room-only crowd from the community.

The students' responses were direct and honest. They revealed that drugs are in our schools, and bathrooms are "a favorite" hang-out of users. They revealed that drugs are easily obtained through social media sites. Dealers deliver the drugs to their homes.

Alcohol Overdose

Learn about what can cause an alcohol overdose, what happens to the brain and body, warning signs, and what to do to get help. Click on the video, left.

SYMPTOMS INCLUDE:

WHAT IS ALCOHOL OVERDOSE?



SHORT TAKES WITH NIAAA

CONFUSION

SEIZURES

CLAMMY SKIN

DIFFICULTY REMAINING CONSCIOUS

TROUBLE BREATHING

EXTREMELY LOW BODY TEMPERATURE

VOMITING

SLOW HEART RATE

DULLED RESPONSES SUCH AS NO GAG REFLEX

Check out this PSA from the National Institute of Health (above) featuring Nancy Diazgranados, MD, Deputy Clinical Director National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

Alcohol is being marketed to Youth

Known as Alcopops, these sweetened alcoholic beverages, often with fruit flavors, are appealing to youth. Here is what they look like.

Alcohol



IF YOU WITNESS AN OVERDOSE
GEORGIA LAW PROTECTS YOU

Don't Run Call 911!



Our message is simple,
if they're still alive, there's hope.

THE ALCOHOL EPIDEMIC KILLS
3x AS MANY AMERICANS AS PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

FCDAC Work and Programs Round-up

Director Kayden's Korner

Happy New Year!

A new year's beginning is often a time for goal setting, and several FCDAC goals emerged at our January 11 meeting. We looked back with gratitude for all our council members'

work and achievements in 2022.

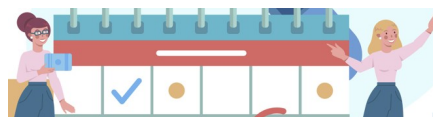
- First Youth Drug Summit.
- Vaping posters/billboards by FCDAC

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
for upcoming
SPEAKER TRAINING!



FCDAC
SPEAKER

TRAINING
FEBRUARY
22





- Helping posters, speakers by the Youth Council and Public Health.
- **MOU-Memorandum of Understanding** allowing FCDAC Drug Prevention Speakers into middle and high school classrooms twice per year. This is HUGE!
- Many **tabling events** get information about drug prevention and increase Community awareness about the Council.

- **Community Resource Guide.**
- Much more!

Well done, everyone!

We set forth a **development plan** looking at which programs we want to continue and expand and where we will prioritize in 2023.

The top four items for 2023 include **Drug Youth Summit II (February 8), Shatterproof Forsyth County Event, Fentanyl Campaign, and Speakers Bureau Development.** We are excited to see where 2023 will take our Council. **It is literally up to YOU, our dedicated council members!** You are the hands, feet, and backbone of the Forsyth County Drug Awareness Council, and this collaboration has the potential to impact the LIVES of many significantly!

Council Meeting Highlights, Community Outreach, Youth Council, Members and Partners

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome by Director Rachel Kayden, introductions and announcements.

- Mike Cowan from FullCircle: **The Youth Summit II at Fullcircle February 8, 4:30-6 pm.**
- Rachel: **the FullCircle event will replace a February Council meeting.**
- Rachel: February 22 Speaker Training, 6:30 pm United Way This is for Speakers and people wanted to represent the Council at Tabling events.
- Karen Cole: Central High School "Dress for Success" February 27-28, 9 am to 4 pm at Grand Central Thrift store at Central H S. **Looking for Professional Clothing Donations.**

Rachel gave the 2022 year in review to recognize the programs and achievements of the Council, and Rachel Listed our On-Going

Programs and Committees.

Did you miss the meeting on January 11?



**6:30 PM
UNITED
WAY**

OFFICES

PLEASE COME AND BRING A FRIEND!

CALENDAR SCHEDULE CHANGE!!

THE FULLCIRCLE YOUTH DRUG SUMMIT, FEBRUARY 8 4:00 p.m. AT FULLCIRCLE

WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF OUR REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AT THE UNITED WAY OFFICES.

We are focusing on 4 major projects in 2023:

- **Shatterproof Forsyth County Event** Educate, support, eliminate stigma, fundraise, and provide resources to the community. Walk, Memorial, Speakers, and Resources. Kayla proposed linking our resource guide and survey to a QR code at this event. This is the focus event of the FCDAC Year. Everyone needs to take part. April 23 City Center
- **Youth Drug Summit II** February 8 at FullCircle. 4:30 pm
- Increase activity in the School System through the FCDAC Speaker's Bureau Development. Health classes, Small Groups, and Social Events. We will provide speakers and get into more schools. We want to train speakers by providing talking points, dos, and don'ts.
- **Fentanyl Campaign-** We identified that

Fentanyl overdose is still a massive problem in our county. We will attack this problem through **education**-it will be a part of our Speakers' training talking



a part of our speakers training talking points, and a **Billboard** campaign and **other social media outreach** may be part of the campaign. Rachel asked a chairperson to form a committee to work on graphics, data collection, and planning to support this campaign. **Maureen Bixler and Kayla Bergeron** will lead this effort.

- Initiatives to add include programs for Foster Families, Parent Programs

YOUTH OUTREACH-SCHOOL NEWS

FC Schools hold Collaboration Day on January 4

Sophia Cook, Peer Support Substance Abuse Counselor at FullCircle, and FCDAC Director, Rachel Kayden hosted the FCDAC Information Table at Forsyth County Schools District Collaboration Day for School Counselors and Social Workers on January 4 at Browns Bridge Church, Cumming. Approximately 175 professionals attended this event.

Cook and Kayden spoke with Social Workers and School Counselors about the activities and mission of the council. Many teachers and school counselors signed up for FCDAC's newsletter and inquired about parent summits.

Central High School's Grand Central Thrifting Event presents

DRESS FOR SUCCESS

February 27-28
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

We currently accept donations of all types of professional clothing for this event. The event will provide tips and experience to young people entering the workforce and help prepare them for success in the job/career search and interview process.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PARTNERS IN BUILDING DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES



The focus event of the FCDAC Year, Shatterproof Forsyth County
April 23, 2023 2-5 p.m.
Center City
Cumming, GA

Shatterproof is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to reversing the addiction crisis in the United States. Gary Mendell, Founder, and CFO, says

Meet our FCDAC Shatterproof leadership team, Rachel Kayden,



Shatterproof, together with our supporters and Rise Up Against Addiction Walk participants, is working to transform our healthcare system and society. Hence, we prevent and treat addiction with science and compassion – like any other chronic illness – and build a future where those touched by this disease don't experience any shame or stigma." **Forty-six million Americans struggle with addiction, but many don't get the treatment they need. It doesn't have to be this way.**

Commissioner Cindy Mills, Sara Pederre, Susan Tanner, Mike Cowan, and others.



Now that the date and location of the event have been chosen, the team is planning with Shatterproof other event components: a speaker line-up, a memorial teacup lighting, and billboards. **Cash donations are welcome, and in-kind donations are appreciated too. In-kind donations are non-cash gifts.** Individuals, corporations, and businesses give them. They can be physical items like sports equipment, food, office supplies, or consulting and repair work services. Sponsorships are available. **Would you happen to have something to help with this event?**

The next Shatterproof committee meeting will delegate tasks working with Shatterproof on graphics, promotional material, and media relations to get the word out.

[Click Here](#) if you would like to join this committee!

Join Harmony Grove Baptist Brotherhood January 21



FCDAC council director Rachel Kayden will host the FCDAC information table at this year's breakfast. She will be there to answer questions and provide information about our council's mission, goals, activities, and the

community resources available to those attending!

Thanks, Rachel!

FCDAC MISSION

"Our mission is to educate, advocate, and empower the community to prevent substance



abuse across the lifespan in Forsyth County, Georgia."



SATURDAY 2023

HARMONY GROVE BAPTIST BROTHERHOOD Hosts the 17TH ANNUAL DRUG & ALCOHOL AWARENESS

Breakfast

Guest speaker

CHUCK BRAGG

Sharing about the danger of addiction and hope for anyone seeking help with recovery from addiction.

BREAKFAST IS FREE!

5470 KEITH BRIDGE RD
CUMMING, GA 30041

INFORMATION ON HOW TO FIND HELP!

SIGN UP BY WEDS, JAN 18TH

CONTACT: TRAVIS WAREHAM (678) 410-5804 OR
JEREMY MARTIN 770-654-5283 * JRMART654@GMAIL.COM



From our Prevention Partner,
John Bringuel

Non-Addictive
Pain Killer, Discovered
Researchers are Hopeful

John writes, In this *SciTechDaily, an online science digest* (September 4, 2022) article titled, "A New, Non-Addictive Pain Killer With Fewer Side Effects," reports, "A team of researchers led by scientists from the University of Warwick's School of Life Sciences has analyzed a compound known as BnOCPA (benzyloxy-cyclopentyladenosine) which was discovered to be a powerful and

selective analgesic that is non-addictive in test model systems. BnOCPA also has a unique mode of action, which could provide a new path for creating analgesic drugs." BnOCPA has the potential to be a new type of painkiller.

[Click Here to Read the Article](#)

You are invited

Moms of SUD Children
Meet for Support and
More!



from Council member,
Susan Tanner

Are you a woman looking for support in coping with a child who struggles with addiction or mental health issues in a faith-based setting?

If so, I am a part of an amazing group of moms/stepmoms of children (ages 12-40) who struggle with SUD/Mental health issues. We meet on Monday evenings from 6-8 pm. We come together over a homecooked meal provided by our



together over a homecooked meal provided by our talented host and offer each other support, a shoulder to cry on, and discuss a chapter or two in various bible study books each week.

Our group formed after a parent retreat in October 2020 called SUNRISE PARENT RETREAT, organized by Julie Cordry. However, attending the retreat is not required to join our group. Anywhere from about 6 to 12 women attend, and we stay in touch throughout the week with last-minute prayer requests via GroupMe.

This group is a huge blessing for me! Please feel free to contact me by [Clicking Here](#) for more information.

Jingle Jog Tabling Event-FCDAC Out in the Community



Jingle Jog Tabling Event

Mike Cowan, FCDAC member, and

FullCircle Program Director staffed the FCDAC table at this year's Jingle Jog 5K and Fun Run at the City Center event, which took place on December 11.

Mike reports, "It was an amazing event, and I was super grateful to see the amazing turnout even with the cold rainy weather.



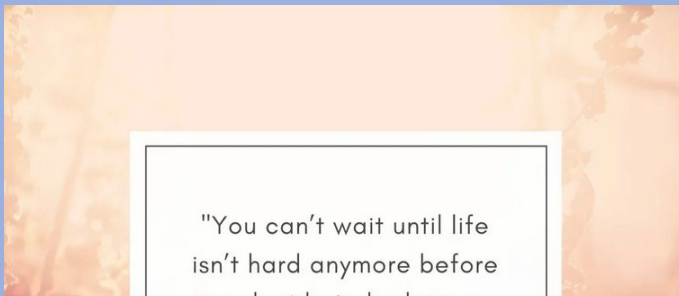
Council member, Mike Cowan greets Santa at Annual Jingle Jog (left).

FCDAC Information Table (below left).

Runners at the finish (below).



Approximately 20 people stopped by our table, and I handed out some FCDAC stretch bands and flyers announcing the February Youth Drug Summit and FCDAC Info flyer." The annual **Jingle Jog helps activate the holiday spirit in Cumming. Proceeds from this race go to support Forsyth County Community Connection (FCCCs Child & Family Welfare Collaborative). FCCCs work supports foster children and their families. Our community coalition spreads awareness to prevent child abuse and neglect.**



LIFESOUTH
Community Blood Centers

NATIONAL BLOOD SHORTAGE

PLEASE HELP TO SAVE LIVES!

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

\$20 eGift card

you decide to be happy...

You are so much more
than the bad things that
happen to you."

NIGHTBIRDE

JANUARY 20, 2023, 9:00 TO 4:00 PM

THE CONNECTION
608 VETERANS MEMORIAL BLVD.
CUMMING, GA



THE CONNECTION

Empowering Wellness for Families Through Recovery

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE CONNECTION
@ 478-253-8564

MEMBERS TEACHING MEMBERS

STRESS IS SITED OFTEN BY STUDENTS AS A REASON FOR TRYING DRUGS

by Dana Bryan



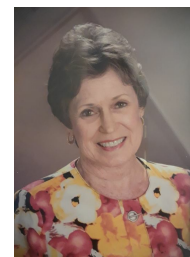
When I speak to middle school students, I realize that I am talking to a group who have had Drug Education their entire life. Drug Education is an essential tool to protect our youth from getting involved with drugs, but other protective factors must be present for them to use their knowledge and make the choices that will prevent them from turning to drugs.

I often ask students why they think so many adolescents and teens are getting involved with drugs despite the knowledge they have gained through drug education. I can predict their answer because they nearly always say that many students get involved with drugs because of all the **stress they are experiencing in their lives**. Today's students experience stress from sources that couldn't have been imagined a generation ago: social media that leads to bullying or presents false claims which make other teens feel inferior; pressure to experiment with an abundance of different chemicals that did not exist a short time ago. However, the source of the stress is not as critical as how a person chooses to deal with the stresses in life.

Some of our stressful situations are caused by our poor choices, but they can occur regardless of how well we plan. I often ask students to think of healthy ways to deal with stress. They always make good suggestions such as the following: engage in some form of physical activity such as shooting baskets, running, walking, riding a bicycle, using exercise equipment, playing tennis; listen to music and even sing or dance to the music; play a musical instrument; talk with a friend, especially if it is someone who often causes you to laugh; watch a movie or television show which causes laughter

or relaxation. I hope the students who make these suggestions will remember them when they deal with stress in their own lives.

All generations have experienced stress. I often think of those who were raised during the Great Depression and possibly had to quit school and give up their dream of getting a high school and college education. This generation often had to find a job to help their family have enough food and a place to live.



Dana Bryan

Dana is a retired middle school teacher and member of FCDAC. Through her personal loss of her daughter to drug experimentation, Dana

devotes her time reaching out to youth through presentations about the real consequences and high risk of experimenting with addictive substances and how it affects them, their futures, and their families. She contributes her insights monthly to the *Strategizer*. Thanks, Dana!

They were forced to sacrifice their plans of preparing for a specific occupation that would have required them to stay in school. They gave up spending time in school with their friends to help take care of the basic needs of their families. Of course, this led to stress and disappointment, and they might have chosen to escape their situation with alcohol. Still, in most cases, they redirected their energy and effort toward a new goal that would benefit themselves and their families. I cannot emphasize the importance of setting goals and feeling purposeful in living a productive and fulfilling life. Setting goals and staying purposeful are usually, if not always, present in the lives of those who make positive choices and can avoid using chemicals or addictions as an escape.

Those who decide to turn to drugs or alcohol to deal with stress (whether adolescents, teens, or adults) use them as an escape, but the stress or problems still exist. Remember that drugs or alcohol never solve a problem or make it go away. Drugs and alcohol add huge problems to whatever the circumstances already were. Nobody tries drugs to become a drug addict or die from drugs, but that is the possible outcome every time someone tries a drug. It does not matter where you live. It does not matter where you go to school. It does not matter if it is your first time trying a drug. Drugs kill people of all ages daily, even here in Forsyth County.

News for You

Local News



****Important Letters from The Department of Health**

A cluster of overdoses was observed; Please report unusual overdose activity or if the presence of cocaine or crack cocaine mixed with fentanyl is suspected.

On January 6, 2023, Amy Benson, MPA, ICPS Opioid Prevention, Public Health, sent a letter detailing, "The Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is reviewing a cluster of drug overdoses, some of which were reported to have occurred near the Greyhound bus station in downtown Atlanta. Preliminary information indicates that the overdoses may have been caused by cocaine and/or crack cocaine laced with a potent synthetic opioid such as fentanyl. On the evening of January 4, at least 12 overdose patients were seen at local hospitals. Several patients reported consuming cocaine or crack cocaine by injection or smoking. Multiple patients responded positively to naloxone. There is at least one death that may be related to this cluster. DPH is continuing to investigate."

January 17, 2023, UPDATE!

Dear Community Partner,

The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on the suspect drug overdose cluster notification released on Friday, January 6. The notification detailed a suspect cluster of drug overdoses, some of which were reported to have occurred near the Greyhound bus station in downtown Atlanta. Preliminary information indicated that the overdoses may have been caused by cocaine and/or crack cocaine laced with a potent synthetic opioid such as fentanyl. After sending the notification, the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) and Fulton County Board of Health staff investigated possibly related overdoses. A review of medical records indicated that a total of 11 identified cases and one fatality were likely related to the cluster, with six of those cases confirmed to be associated with the Greyhound bus station area and all in the Metro Atlanta area. Most of the patients either reported cocaine or crack cocaine use and/or tested

In the Metro Atlanta area. Most of the patients either reported cocaine or crack cocaine use and/or tested positive for cocaine metabolites on a hospital toxicology screen. **The Georgia Public Health Lab also tested specimens from four patients, all of which were positive for fentanyl and 4-ANPP.**

Harm reduction partners, Georgia Harm Reduction and Aniz Inc., responded to the situation by providing naloxone and other harm-reduction services in the area. DPH continues to monitor the situation and will provide updates as warranted. To date, DPH has not received any additional reports of unusual overdose activity or overdoses that may be related to the cluster. **If you are seeing unusual overdose activity or suspect the presence of cocaine or crack cocaine mixed with potent synthetic opioids in your area, please notify the DPH Drug Surveillance Unit at ga.opioidprogram@dph.ga.gov. To report an overdose that may be related to these drugs or for toxicological advice, call the Georgia Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222.**

It is critical that people who use drugs understand that there is a risk of overdose when using stimulants or other drugs mixed with fentanyl or other synthetic opioids.

For more information about overdose prevention and Georgia's response please visit <https://dph.georgia.gov/stopopioidaddiction>. Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,
Amy Benson, MPA, ICPS
Opioid Prevention

State News

Georgia joins the \$3.1 billion national settlement with Walmart



Georgia has joined the \$3.1 billion national settlement with Walmart to resolve allegations that the company failed to oversee the dispensing of opioids at its stores appropriately and therefore contributed to the opioid crisis. By joining the settlement, Georgia stands to receive a base payment of \$28 million to help fund necessary treatment and recovery services.

AG Chris Carr said at the press conference on December 15 announcing that GA would join the national settlement, "The opioid epidemic has destroyed lives, families, and communities all across our state and nation. By joining this settlement, we will receive much-needed resources to help support Georgians in recovery and our neighbors struggling with addiction. This is one of several actions we have taken to help combat the opioid crisis, and we will continue to do all we can to address the damage it's caused throughout our state."



Drug Surveillance Unit

Opioid-involved Overdose Surveillance in Georgia and opioid-involved overdose deaths have rapidly increased in Georgia since 2010, primarily driven by increased use and misuse of prescription opioids (e.g., Oxycodone and Hydrocodone). Beginning in 2013, illicit opioids such as heroin and fentanyl caused a sharp increase in opioid-involved overdose deaths. The Drug Surveillance Unit monitors overdose trends in Georgia and provides drug surveillance data to the public and partners working to end the opioid epidemic. Rebecca Brownlee, a biostatistician of DPH's Drug Surveillance Unit, provided the information at

Emory's Drug Safety Task Force meeting regarding overdose deaths among adolescents in Georgia (2019-2021). Her slides from the presentation can be viewed by [clicking here](#). (under Annual Surveillance Data).

For the slide Presentations with Graphs and charts, [Click Here](#).

National News

Covid 19 and Drug Overdose Deaths Reduce Life-expectancy in the US for 2nd Year

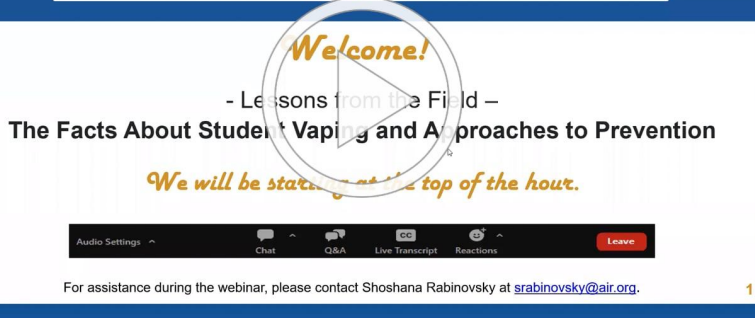
In a *Politico*, December 22, 2022 article by Krista Mahr, according to the CDC's latest data, life expectancy in the United States dropped last year to its lowest since 1996, extending a downward trend that began in 2020. Life expectancy is now 76.4 years, the article said.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had "a domino effect by "exacerbating the already very severe problem that we have in overdose deaths," Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, was quoted as saying in the article. The article said Volkow believes the pandemic drove social changes that made people more vulnerable to taking drugs as a way of escaping. The pandemic also made it harder to get help. "Resources that were able to support people in the past were no longer available," Volkow said.

[Click Here for the entire article.](#)

FYI

Lessons from the Field - The Facts About Student Vaping and Approaches to Prevention.



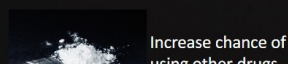
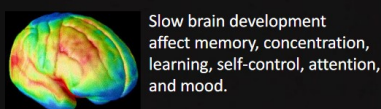
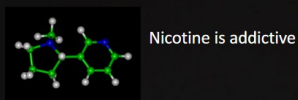
The National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments, funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Supportive Schools, provides this webinar,

Lessons from the Field - The Facts About Student Vaping and Approaches to Prevention.

E-cigarettes Are the Most Commonly Used Tobacco Product Among U.S. Youth 2.55 Million

- E-cigarettes are the most common tobacco product
- currently used (use on 1 or more days in the past 30
- days) by 2.55 million students or almost 1 in 10
- of America's middle school and high school students.
- Slightly more than 4 in 10 frequently reported (use on 20 or more days in the past 30 days).

Vaping=bad idea



- Slightly more than 1 in 4 reported daily use.

Advocate at the Capitol February 23, 2023

WHY ADVOCACY?

Advocacy coalitions can include anyone regularly seeking to influence a public policy, such as elected and government officials. The advocacy coalition is an informal network of allies of individuals and organizations interested in and committed to substance abuse prevention and suicide prevention. Advocacy is a primary prevention strategy that puts our focus UPSTREAM of problems by helping people to avoid, reduce or modify drug use or get the mental health help they need; rather than reacting to subsequent "downstream" problems that require intervention and or acute treatment and often an emergency response.



Voices for Prevention's mission is to build a unified, statewide voice for substance abuse prevention and suicide prevention by collaborating with a diverse group of individuals and organizations with an interest in and a commitment to substance abuse prevention and suicide prevention. This mission is accomplished by advocating for and educating about substance abuse prevention, suicide prevention, and

related issues. Mental health and substance use disorders are among the leading conditions that cause disability in the United States.

[CLICK HERE TO BECOME A V4P MEMBER](#)

Membership with V4P is free. Membership includes exclusive webinars, networking opportunities, and much more. You can also be involved with V4P events via our social media accounts. Our social media handle on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook is V4PGA. So, click that follow button and be a part of the V4PGA experience!

Advocacy Basics Webinar Wednesday, January 25th at 2pm.

*No need to register just click on the link on Jan. 25th

Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 834 6848 1410

Passcode: 527440

Join by Phone: (646) 558 8656



NEW NATIONAL LIFELINE 3-DIGIT NUMBER!



SAVE THE DATE

FEB. 23, 2023

46.3 Million in US Met Criteria for SUD Diagnosis in 2021

According to a January 6 digital article in the *Addiction Professional*, by Tom Valentino, "In 2021, 46.3 million people aged 12 or older in the US—about 16.5% of the nation’s population—met the applicable DSM-5 criteria for having a substance use disorder. Of those, 94% did not receive any treatment. The findings come from the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), which was released this week by the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)." [Click Here](#) to read the article.

[READ the 2021 NSDUH national report](#)

JANUARY IS

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

Report Suspected Human Trafficking

Report suspected human trafficking activity to law enforcement (available 24/7, in over 300 languages and dialects at):

- Call 1-866-347-2423 (toll free)
- Call 1-802-872-6199 (non toll free international)
- Report online at www.ice.gov/tips

MENTORING



[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)

AWARENESS MONTH

[Click Here](#) for info



It's not happiness that makes us grateful



OPERATION UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

[For More Click Here](#)

makes us grateful,
it's gratitude that makes
us happy.

PRAIRIE SKY RECOVERY
GA 19, INC.

On the Calendar

January

- [National Mentoring Month](#)
- New Year's Day, January 1
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 17
- Harmony Grove Baptist Church Drug & Alcohol Awareness Breakfast, Saturday, January 21, 8 a.m., 5470 Keith Bridge Rd, Cumming.
- [SAMHSA's Prevention Day](#), January 30
- [CADCA FORUM](#), January 30-February 2, National Harbor, MD.

February

- [FullCircle Youth Drug Summit II](#), February 8, 4:30-6:00 p.m., FullCircle
- St. Valentine's Day, February 14
- President's Day, February 20
- Substance Abuse Prevention Day Georgia Capitol, February 23, 2023, Join Voices 4 Prevention [HERE](#).

