



Communities That Care

CTC QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



CTC's Vision

Our vision is to provide a community in which all area youth feel safe and connected; a community in which youth are empowered to be healthy, resilient, and compassionate members of society; and a community in which young people positively contribute and impact future generations.





DFC Grant Updates: The action plan for the DFC grant indicates youth involvement is responsible for several activities. We will invite youth to the table and involve them with input/involvement in the strategies. There has been lots of forward momentum on a number of media led campaigns. One billboard will address the dangers of underage drinking and one will address teenage use of tobacco products. Five radio PSA's will be aired discussing underage drinking during graduation season & general dangers. In addition, 5 radio PSA's/social media/other web based communication announcements regarding dangers of tobacco product use among youth will be aired. Finally, media campaigns will share 3 ads about the dangers and consequences of adults providing alcohol to minors during graduation season. Discussions continue re: training two facilitators to implement "Guiding Good Choices" that will be provided for up to 10 families. The Sticker Shock campaign involves designing stickers to educate adults about the dangers of underage drinking. Youth and leaders place stickers on alcohol packaging being sold in local stores and gas stations. This may be done during graduation party season this year to discourage adults from providing to and the health risks of underage drinking at graduation parties.







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The Data Workgroup put out a poll to our local school district administration on their preference of administering our biannual youth survey to address substance use problem behaviors among our local students. The results showed an overwhelming response for keeping the survey on track for this 2021 semester. We added a few additional questions of our own this time and look forward to working with the districts on this effort and releasing new data this summer.



Outreach and Maintance continues to make posts on Facebook and find ways to get word about CTC into the community. Twitter and Instagram have been added to the social media platforms that CTC is actively utilizing! This group has been making updates to the website as needed and continue to work on plans of advertising CTC as a community coalition.



The Mental Health/Suicide Prevention Workgroup has been engaging in strategic planning in order to be more intentional about serving the needs of our communities. Our identified focus is to reduce youth and adult depressive symptoms. We have identified root causes and local conditions, and are currently identifying strategies we will implement to work toward change. In the process, we have continued to provide Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid Trainings to our communities, have offered educational and collaborative supports to partner agencies, and have also shared helpful resources in addressing mental health challenges.





The Funding Workgroup spent time after the fishing derby fundraiser to debrief the event and review feedback from volunteers and participant. We are looking at various community grants to apply to and will be picking up planning the next youth ice fishing derby beginning in July. If any members have any funding requests please send them to our chair, Cara Kalafut at ckalafut@mcisd.org



The Resource Workgroup has continued working on the identified programming from the Community Action Planning (CAP) session that has been added into the DFC work plan. We are sending two coalition members/staff to a **Guiding Good Choices** training in May and are already making plans for two additional trainers for year 2 of the grant. We are also looking to identify new prevention programs for our local school districts.