

Pontotoc County Drug Free Coalition

Step Out of The Darkness



The rain, rain did not go away, but we marched,
marched anyway!



Step Out of the Darkness 2014 was a huge success! The march and

rally was held on Saturday, September 6, 2014 at East Central University Kerr Dome. There were approximately 450-500 people in attendance and 16 vendors. There was an abundance of gift baskets and prizes given away. Joseph Hunnicutt was the winner of the grand prize drawing!

The event was a great tribute to those who are in recovery and the families that support them. There were many stories shared, prayers raised and encouragement given on behalf of those continuing to push forward in recovery. Our hearts were also united in remembrance for those we have lost to addiction. Thank you to everyone who came out to show your support!



Alcohol Compliance Checks

The Drug Free Communities Grant in partnership with the Ada Police Department and ABLE Agents (Alcohol Beverage Licensing Enforcement) completed three rounds of alcohol compliance checks within this first year of the DFC grant. Unfortunately, the rates of non-compliance has gradually risen from 25% in March to 37% in August. We hope to begin to see a decrease this next DFC year. Our goal is to continue the routine checks in an effort to hold businesses accountable. Ultimately, we want to see every server of alcohol properly trained through Responsible Beverage Service and Sales Training. We plan to begin with small policy changes such as mandating Responsible Beverage Service and Sales Training for those who fail compliance checks.

Vision:

A safe and healthy community free of substance abuse.

Mission:

United to reduce substance abuse by using proactive strategies to empower our community.



Pontotoc County Drug Free Coalition

United to reduce substance abuse!

Visit us at www.pcdfc.org for more information or to get involved!

The best way to solve problems is to be proactive rather than reactive. As a coalition we anticipate possible legal changes regarding marijuana in the future. It has been discussed at recent coalition meetings to begin research into the topic. We need to be proactive in our efforts and that begins with data! PCDFC is asking its members to do the following:

- ◆ Research the pros and cons (medical and/or full legalizations)
- ◆ Research effects of marijuana use.
- ◆ Verify the sources of your findings.
- ◆ Make sure any studies or cases are accurate.
- ◆ Bring /share the facts or resources collected with the coalition.

We have an opportunity to be a great educational resource for our community.!



NCA Cohort 8



From Atlantic to Pacific DFC Travels

In July, DFC staff along with our PCDFC chair and Sustainability chair traveled to Orlando, FL for CADCA Mid-Year training. The conference was very educational and we all gathered a lot of information to bring back to the coalition. One of the bigger topics discussed at mid-year was the issue of marijuana legalization. There were also some very interesting media advocacy classes.

In September, DFC staff traveled to Washington state for week 3 of National Coalition Academy. In week 3 we learned about sustainability and evaluation of outcomes. As taxing as NCA has been, we have learned a tremendous amount of information and have tools to move our coalition work forward. Graduation from the academy will be held in Washington DC in February 2015.

Thank you!

A big thank you to our media partners who have committed to continue in-kind donations for the second year of DFC!

You are awesome!

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STAND

Education

In July, STAND members got the pleasure of meeting Deputy Wood and K-9 Officer Gallagher. They work with the Pontotoc County Sheriff's Office. K-9 Gallagher is a narcotics and human tracking dog. Deputy Wood talked to the youth about his partner and explained how a K-9 officer works and is trained. Deputy Wood demonstrated how Gallagher tracks narcotics and alerts. It was a very interesting presentation and the members really enjoyed it!

Also in July, PCDFC and BWI hosted a workshop with Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics Director Darrell Weaver. He spoke about Prescription Drug Abuse and the crisis we face in Oklahoma. He graciously allowed us to use the registration fees to benefit the STAND coalition. This has helped with food for meetings as well as stipends for youth who help with alcohol compliance checks.

Thank you again to Deputy Wood, K-9 Officer Gallagher and Director Weaver for the opportunities to learn!



Vision:

To promote and sustain a healthy environment free of youth substance abuse.

Mission:

To provide youth substance abuse education and advocate for strict enforcement.

STAND Work

STAND has been hard at work! A few of the things STAND has worked on include:

- Created the STAND Vision and Mission statements
- Began work on their Strategic Plan for the 2014-2015 school year
- Environmental Scans
- Radio PSA's
- Alcohol Compliance Checks
- Media distribution within their schools
- Volunteered for SOTD, Circle Time, and National Night Out

Upcoming Dates

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| ◇ October 7: PCDFC Meeting | ◇ November 4: PCDFC Meeting | ◇ December 2: PCDFC Meeting |
| ◇ October 7: STAND Meeting | ◇ November 4: OBN Demonstration at STAND Meeting | ◇ December 2: STAND Meeting |
| ◇ October 16-17: ECU Fall Break | ◇ November 18: STAND Meeting | ◇ December 16: STAND Meeting |
| ◇ October 21: STAND Meeting | ◇ November 26-28: ECU Thanksgiving Break | ◇ December 22-January 2: ECU Christmas Break |
| ◇ October 23: STAND/PCDFC Hypnosis Event | | |

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STAND

Students Taking A New Direction

www.pcdfc.org

Facebook: [studentstakinganewdirection](https://www.facebook.com/studentstakinganewdirection)

Twitter: [standpc](https://twitter.com/standpc)

Email: stand@gmail.com