

PARENT RESOURCE CENTER BULLETIN

~~"Because you don't take the time to meet my friends, you don't know that Krystal and Stefany are a couple of friends from school that I get high with."~~

Families in Action Celebrates 25 Years of Existence

Twenty five years is a long run for any non-profit organization, especially one taking on such a problem as substance abuse.

On October 22nd, Families in Action celebrated its 25th Anniversary after a quarter of a century of award-winning efforts to save children from the temptations and devastations of substance

abuse. Some of the original founders of Families in Action along with local officials and representatives attended the celebration. In the past quarter-century, Families in Action has joined forces with local law enforcement agencies, Wilson County Schools, Wilson-Greene Mental Health Center and businesses and faith groups. Tom Brown of Brown Oil Company, who Mooring called the "father" of Families in Action, expressed pride in what the organization has become. Brown was among the first of those who stepped forward when the Wilson Chamber of Commerce in 1981 recommended a public awareness committee be formed to address illegal drug use

in Wilson county. "I'm thinking way back to when this started, when I wasn't sure where this would go," Brown said. "I'm amazed and proud. It's a great success story."

In 2004, Families in Action created the Parent Resource Center to support parents and others who are working to keep kids from using alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

Those in attendance reflected on the life of the late Carol Barnes Brewer, the Executive Director of Families in Action from 1991 to 2000. Brewer died in September, and the reception was dedicated in her memory.

**In Memory of
Carol Barnes Brewer
March 1, 1948 - Sept 9, 2007**



Tom Brown (left), Rep. Joe Tolson, Chief Harry Typson, Wilson Police Department (right)

SAMHSA Report Highlights Youth Issues

On an average day in 2006, nearly 1.2 million adolescents smoked cigarettes, 631,000 drank alcohol, and 586,000 used marijuana, according to a report from the Substance

Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The report is the first of its kind from SAMHSA, drawing on national surveys conducted and analyzed by SAMHSA's Office of Applied Studies. The report, released October 18, also

showed that each day, nearly 50,000 adolescents used inhalants, 27,000 used hallucinogens, 13,000 used cocaine and 3,800 used heroin. The full report is available at <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k7/youthFacts/youth.cfm>.

Mark your CALENDAR



NC Summit on Youth and Families

December 4-5, 2007

Sheraton Hotel & Convention Center RTP
Durham, NC

NC Parent Network Meeting **Wednesday, January 9, 2008** **10:30 AM—1:00 PM**

Host: Coastal Horizons, Wilmington, NC

Topic: Underage Drinking

Presenters: Trooper Troy Pope & D.A. Ben David

NC Parent Network Meeting **Wednesday, January 30, 2008**

Host: Wake Forest University

Topic: Substance Abuse is a Disease

Presenter: Dr. Allyn Howlett

NC Parent Network Meeting **Wednesday, March 26, 2008**

Host: NC National Guard

Presenter: Kim Shropshire, NCDPI

Topic: Dropout Prevention

4th Annual NC Parent Network Conference

April 22-23, 2008

First United Methodist Church of
Elon, NC

www.ncparentresourcecenter.org

Can Parents Judge Teen Substance Use?

A recent study, conducted by Neil B. McGillicuddy, Ph.D., and colleagues at the University at Buffalo's Research Institute on Addictions, looking specifically at parents who are concerned about their children's substance use has found that parents can actually judge their teen's use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

The study found that parents of teenagers are quite accurate about the incidence of their children's use of cigarettes, marijuana, alcohol, or other drugs, but are not as accurate in judging the frequency (how often) of their use, especially in the case of alcohol and illegal drugs. Researchers concluded that parents who were more likely to underestimate their child's substance use were those who drink alcohol frequently, those not functioning well psychologically, those who fail to keep track of



their teens' whereabouts, and those parents of younger teenagers.

"If you look at it from a family perspective, what parents know about their teen's drug use could have an impact on how they parent," said McGillicuddy.

Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Weekly, Volume 19, No. 42, November 5, 2007.

Nearly One-Third of U.S. High School Seniors Report Driving While Impaired or Riding with An Impaired Driver

Impaired driving by youth remains a problem that needs serious attention despite some progress in recent years, according to a recent analysis of data from the 2001 to 2006 Monitoring the Future surveys. In 2006, 30% of high school seniors reported that in the two weeks prior to the survey they had driven after heavy drinking (five or more drinks in a row) or after using marijuana or other drugs, or rode in a car whose driver had done the same. While this is a decline from the 35% reported in



2001, most of the decline occurred between 2001 and 2003, with little change occurring in more recent years. In each year, students were more likely to report driving after marijuana use than driving after heavy drinking (13.1% vs. 9.5% in 2006; data not shown). While driving after marijuana use is often considered to be less dangerous than driving after heavy drinking, the study found that seniors who reported driving after marijuana use (but not after heavy drinking) reported having been in a traffic accident in the past 12 months as often as those who reported driving after heavy drinking (38% and 39%, respectively).

Adapted by CESAR from O'Malley, P.M. and Johnston, L. D. Drugs and Driving by American High School Seniors, 2001-2006, Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs 68(6):834-842.

Thanks for the Feedback...

"We have just completed a train the trainer with "Guiding Good Choices" and youth ministers. It went very well. Elizabeth Bunn was a great help with getting that program started. Our thanks to the Parent Resource Center!"

Sandra Head, Extension Agent
Family and Consumer Sciences
North Carolina State University
North Carolina Cooperative Extension
Wayne County Center

Families in Action
Prevention that works!

www.familiesinaction.org

CONTACT US:



(P) 252.237.1242
(F) 252.237.6544
prcebunn@simflex.com

**NC
Parent Network**

www.ncparentresourcecenter.org