



D & A News

Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc.
(Single County Authority)

Volume 3, Issue 1
June 2004

Reverend David Young Recognized for Board Service



Reverend Young

Reverend David Young was recently recognized for three years of service on the Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission’s Board of Directors, serving as Vice-President for the past year. He also actively served on the Finance and Recovery Center Committees. Reverend Young is Pastor of the Prevailing Word World Outreach Center and Chaplain at the Youth Development Center. The SCA Board and staff are extremely grateful to Reverend Young for his service and dedication to our community.

LCDAC Sponsors 2nd Annual Alcohol Awareness Poster Program

The Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission sponsored its second annual alcohol awareness poster contest, a local initiative in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board’s state alcohol awareness poster program.

Area students in grades K – 12 were encouraged to create posters that deter underage drinking. In doing so, they educated themselves on the consequences of drinking, such as low academic achievement, harmful personal relationships, vehicle accidents, and addiction. In addition, the posters reinforced the positive concept that young people can reach their goals by remaining alcohol free.

The local winners in each category received U.S. savings bonds and their posters were forwarded to Harrisburg for competition at the state level. Each year approximately 1100 entries are submitted at the state level of which 80 posters are selected for further recognition. Some of the designs selected will be featured as posters, book covers, T-shirts or as screensavers.

(Winners listed on page 3)

LCDAC Sponsors Philadelphia Narcotics Bureau Heads-Up Program in Local Schools

“Drug use is everywhere,” warns Officer Virginia Pagano of the Philadelphia Police Department Narcotics Bureau. Pagano, an officer for eighteen years, presented the Heroin Education And Dangerous Substance Understanding Program (HEADS-UP) in four school districts in Lawrence County during the week of May 3, 2004. Pagano barraged the students of Union Middle-High School, New Castle High School, and Wilmington Area High School with the real-life horrors of drug use by implementing crime scene photographs and statistics. Shenango High School invited all of Lawrence County to an evening presentation of this program that primarily focused on the education of parents. Officer Pagano told of the terrors of drug use: burglary, abuse, murder, crack houses, emergency rooms, morgues, and the pain drug users cause for themselves and their families. Pagano reminded students to remain focused on their dreams. “With drug use, [your] dreams can be lost in a split second and your life changed forever.”



Officer Virginia Pagano speaks to parents at Shenango High School.

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BUSTED!



Local members of BUSTED! relax at the June 10th rally.

Local BUSTED! Chapters joined forces to rally against the Big Tobacco industry who specifically target youth in their advertisements for tobacco products. The rally, organized by Lawrence County Cares, took place June 10, 2004 at the Lawrence County Courthouse. Students from New Castle, Laurel, Lincoln, Union, and Mohawk High Schools departed from the I CARE House carrying signs and sporting enthusiasm as they charged the courthouse steps. The New Castle News, Youngstown Vindicator, and Channel 27 News interviewed the youth as they shouted out various statistics regarding the effects of tobacco use through a megaphone and waved their signs. "Smoke...Choke...Croak..." "Smoking cigarettes is like paying someone to kill you (picture of a smoking gun)," and "Kissing a smoker is like licking an ashtray" are just some of the realities the youth were trying to point out. They also shared information regarding the activities each BUSTED! Chapter took part in throughout the school year. Afterward the youth returned to the I CARE House for an afternoon of food, fun, and fellowship complete with volleyball and D.J. Jason Budai.

BUSTED! is a statewide, youth initiative focused on eliminating the manipulation of big tobacco companies that target youth. Since the initiation of BUSTED! in Lawrence County in 2001, over 500 students work together to spread their message by sponsoring anti-tobacco events such as rallies, picnics, public service announcements, and other activities.

The Odyssey: Part IV

Chapter IV of the Reading Odyssey, "Exploration Tales", was held Saturday, June 5th at Cascade Park. Although much of the day was rainy and cold, over 1,500 youth and their families came to enjoy this program.

This event, sponsored by Adult Literacy Lawrence County/Family Choices, was intended to promote literacy awareness and to serve as a kick-off for the summer reading program. Over 50 community agencies, fire departments, police departments, government bodies, and schools came to take part in this day. Lawrence county families enjoyed storytellers, crafts, music, demonstrations, baby animals, prizes, refreshments, and much more. Each child in attendance received a free T-shirt and a book coupon redeemable at the public library.

Representatives from the Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission read the book, *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka. This humorous fractured fairy tale, told the original story of the three little pigs from the wolf's perspective. Following the story the children had an opportunity to make wolf and pig paper bag puppets. They could use these puppets to re-tell the story to their friends and family. Tattoos, stickers, and pencils were among the prizes the children received for participating in this activity.



Jaci Grandy reads to Reading Odyssey participants.

Regardless of the not-so-perfect weather, it warmed our hearts to see so many Lawrence County families spending the day together and enjoying all of the activities. We were proud to participate in such a fun and rewarding program.

LCDAC Sponsors Philadelphia Narcotics Bureau Heads-Up Program in Local Schools

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Also speaking in the program was Kathleen Berry, a mother who lost her daughter, Karen, to drugs. Karen died in 1998 at age seventeen from a heroin overdose. Kathleen tried valiantly to get help for her daughter, but Karen was able to sign herself out of rehab. Kathleen went to court for the right to commit her daughter to a treatment facility, but when Karen earned her first overnight pass, she went out with a friend and never came home. Kathleen's emotionally-charged story depicted for the audience a different perspective of the drug problem. By sharing her painful memories, Kathleen left an impression on students and adults that drugs do more than harm the people who use them, drugs also maim families and communities.

Pagano will be welcomed back next year for an updated Heads-Up program that will have an increased concentration on prescription drugs.

LCDAC Sponsors 2nd Annual Alcohol Awareness Poster Program



Congratulations to our local winners who have advanced to the state competition:

Kindergarten: 1st-Kay Weston, Croton; 2nd-Peyton Quigley, Croton, 3rd-Araycia Byers, Croton
 Grade 1: 1st-Alana Romeo, Pulaski; 2nd-Rheese Goodemote, Pulaski; 3rd-Bobby Liddell, Pulaski
 Grade 3: 1st-Jimmy Buxton III, Pulaski; 2nd-Brandon Hagens, Pulaski; 3rd-Francesca Mastrangelo, St. Vitus
 Grade 4: 1st-Gionna Fiello, St. Vitus; 2nd-Marina Pisano, St. Vitus; 3rd-Sara Kosior, St. Vitus
 Grade 5: 1st-Jennifer Lapinsky, St. Vitus; 2nd-Cassie Sensky, Mohawk; 3rd-Casey McQuiston, Mohawk
 Grade 6: 1st-Kaitlyn Shober, St. Vitus; 2nd-Jennifer Enriquez, St. Vitus; 3rd-Katy Orloff, St. Vitus
 Grade 7: 1st-Courtney Caravella, Wilmington, 2nd-Susan Miller, Wilmington; 3rd-Danny Solomon, Home schooled
 Grade 8: 1st-Keya McKean, Mohawk; 2nd-Rochelle Fitch, Mohawk; 3rd-Kyra Kerfoot, Mohawk
 Grade 9: 1st-Kelley Maxwell, Shenango; 2nd-Amber Busch, Shenango
 Grade 10: 1st-Chelsea Fazzone, Shenango; 2nd-Stevie Crisci, Shenango; 3rd-Josh Cooper, Shenango
 Grade 11: 1st-Dawnitza Colaluca, Shenango; 2nd-Jessica Goswick, Shenango; 3rd-Hannah Kirkwood, Shenango

CASE MANAGEMENT:

Linking Lawrence County residents with needed treatment and community services

The Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc. (LCDAC,) offers Case Management services to all residents seeking drug/alcohol treatment. Through a comprehensive and confidential interview, all referrals to the Case Management unit are assessed for appropriate level of care such as detoxification, residential, and/or various outpatient services. Once the level of care is determined, the Case Manager makes the necessary referral arrangements to a licensed drug and alcohol provider and assists the individual throughout the treatment process. The majority of the experienced and dedicated case management staff comes from a treatment background, which greatly aids them when making recommendations for a client's treatment. Not only does the case management staff assess clients in the LCDAC office, but they also complete assessments at several other locations including the Ellwood City UniCenter, Lawrence County Jail, and Jameson Hospital.

LCDAC also offers Intensive Case Management (ICM), which provides additional support and access to services for individuals throughout their treatment and recovery process. ICM staff helps individuals evaluate their strengths and needs to develop tangible goals, links them with appropriate community services, advocates for their rights, and provides encouragement for individuals working towards self-sufficiency.

Case Management staff collaborates with other community agencies to provide services to Lawrence County residents. The Intensive Case Manager participates in Housing Coalition meetings to evaluate housing needs and available resources. Through this process, the need for permanent housing for recovering addicts/alcoholics was identified. We are currently assisting the Lawrence County Social Services to solicit HUD funding to meet this identified need.

Twice a month, the Intensive Case Manager participates in Maximum Participation Project (MPP) meetings through the Department of Public Welfare. As a core member of the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT), she works closely with participants to help identify barriers that prevent them from moving towards self-sufficiency. As a result of the effectiveness of our MDT, Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare invited the team to present a workshop for the Pennsylvania Partners Workforce Development this May in Hershey. The workshop was a huge success and confirmed the dedication of our team.

Case Management services are provided at no cost to Lawrence County residents. LCDAC also has treatment funding available for individuals meeting eligibility requirements.



Case Management Staff:

Row 1: Julie Jendrysik and Filianne Green
 Row 2: Darcy McKinney, Roger Williamson, and Charlotte Thomas

**Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol
Commission, Inc.**

(Single County Authority)

25 N. Mill St.
Suite 303
New Castle, PA 16101
Phone: 724-658-5580
Fax: 724-658-2427



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Kevin Webb - *Prevention Specialist*
Roger Williamson - *Case Management Specialist*

Educational Presentations Available

LCDAC staff is available to provide educational presentations regarding alcohol, tobacco, and/or other drugs. If your group is interested, please call Michele Orłowski at 724-658-5580.

Treatment Available

Do you know someone who has a problem with alcohol or drugs? The LCDAC Case Management staff can help! We'll provide a free confidential assessment and referral. Based on eligibility, we have funding available for treatment services. Call 724-658-5580.

Educational Material Available

The LCDAC is a Regional Alcohol and Drug Awareness Resource (RADAR) Network Associate Center, affiliated with the PA Department of Health. As a RADAR site, we can provide you with free pamphlets, posters, and other materials regarding alcohol, tobacco, drug, and other health-related issues. For more information, please call Kevin Webb at 724-658-5580.

Newsletter Mailing List

To add or remove your name from our newsletter mailing list, call Raschelle Smith at 724-658-5580.