



Coalition Response to Adolescent Drug Abuse in Appalachia

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**Coalition on Appalachian Substance Abuse Policy
and**

**East Tennessee State University's Office of Rural and Community Health
and Community Partnerships**

**Appalachian Regional Commission's
Healthy Families: Healthy Futures Conference
September 7-9, 2011**

Faces of Appalachian youth



Andrea Morales for The New York Times



A Hidden America: Children of the Mountains, ABC News



Kenny Kemp, The Charleston Gazette

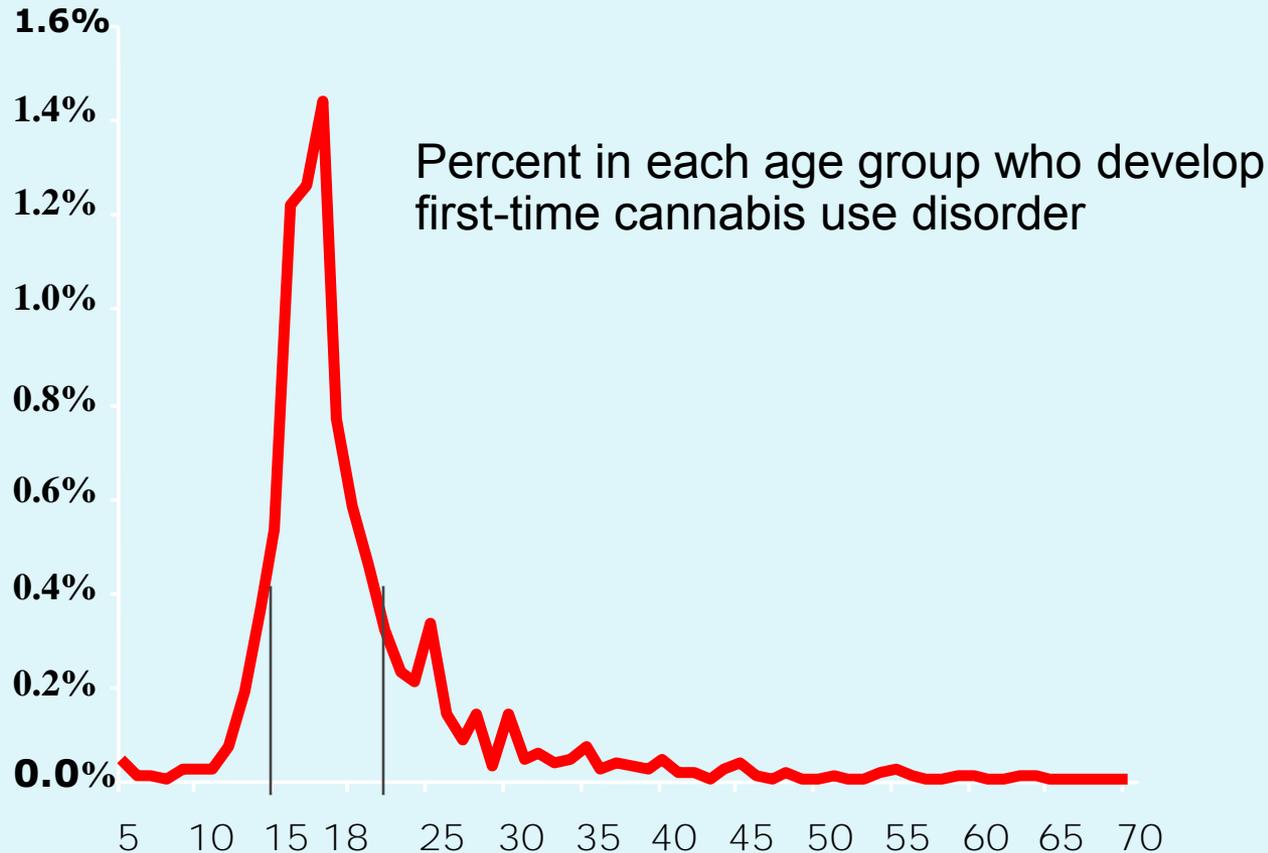
Bowers/Health Families: Healthy Futures Conference

Adolescents are different

- One in every four adolescents under 15 that uses substances will have lifetime dependence
- Fewer than 1 in every 10 adolescents with a substance abuse will receive treatment
- Use is starting earlier...over 63% of adolescents reported marijuana use earlier than age 15
- 71% reported using other drugs

Adolescent substance Abuse Knowledge Base <http://www.adolescent-substance-abuse.com/>

Addiction is a Disease That Starts in Childhood & Adolescence

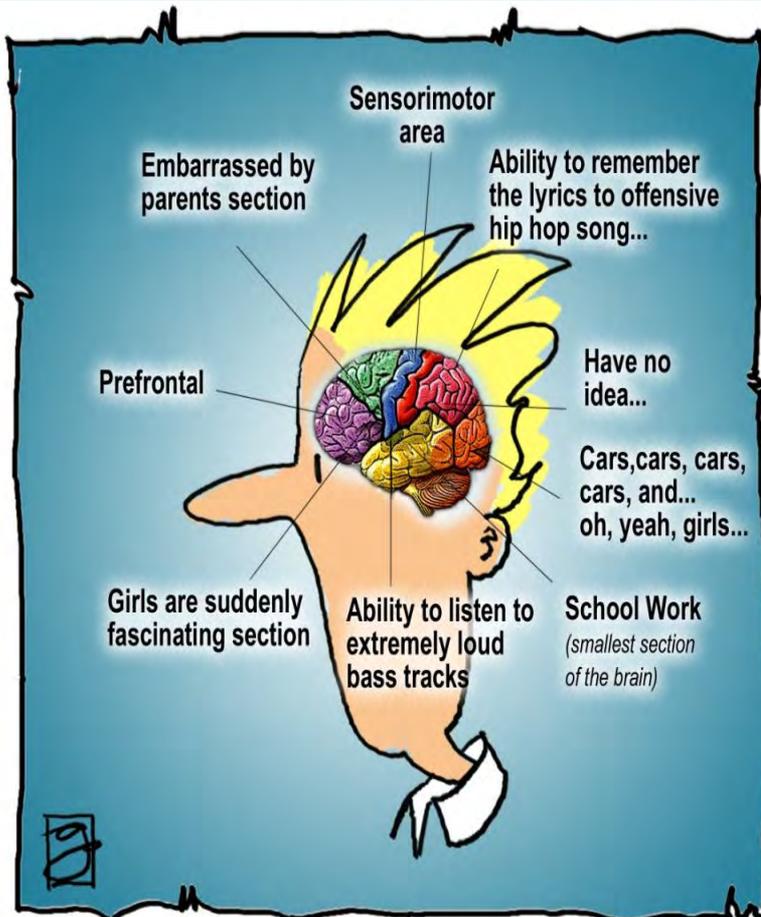


Age at 1st diagnosis of cannabis use disorder

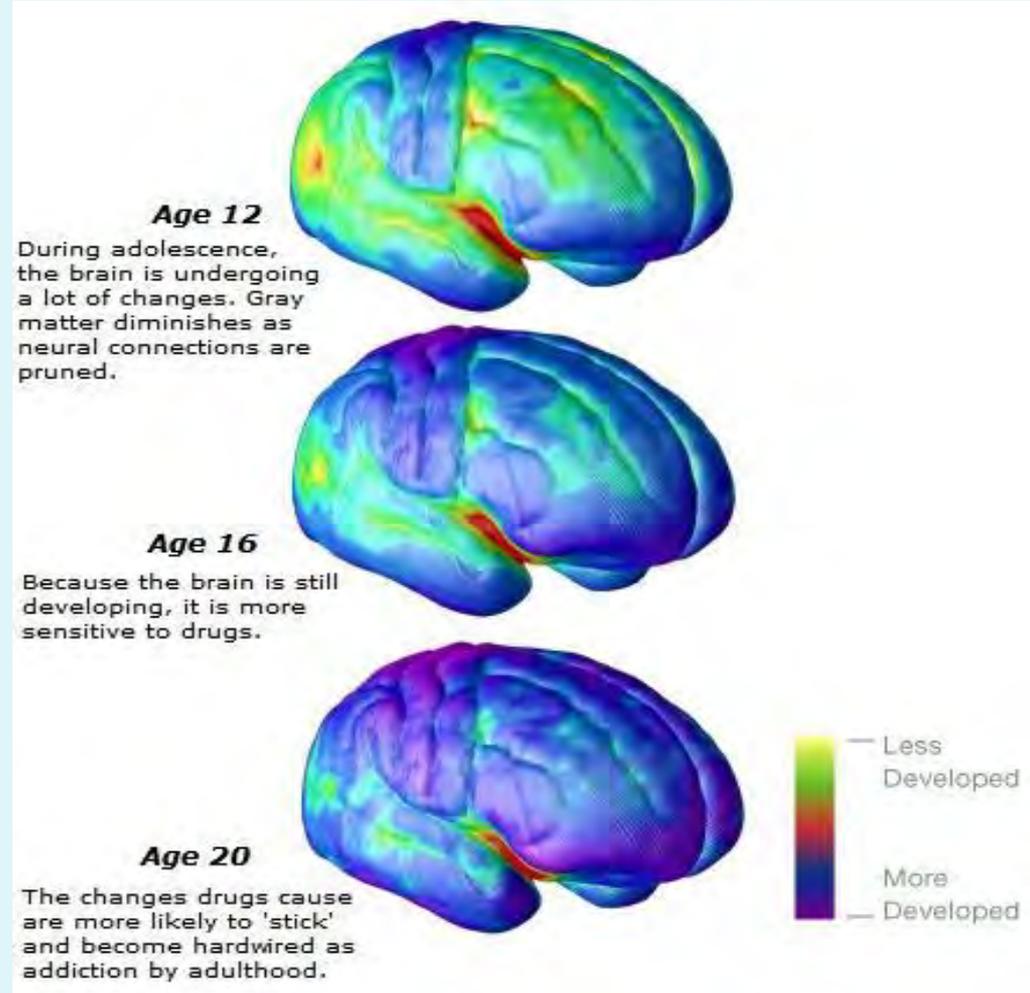
NIAAA National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions, 2003

Prefrontal Cortex

The Last Brain Region to Develop

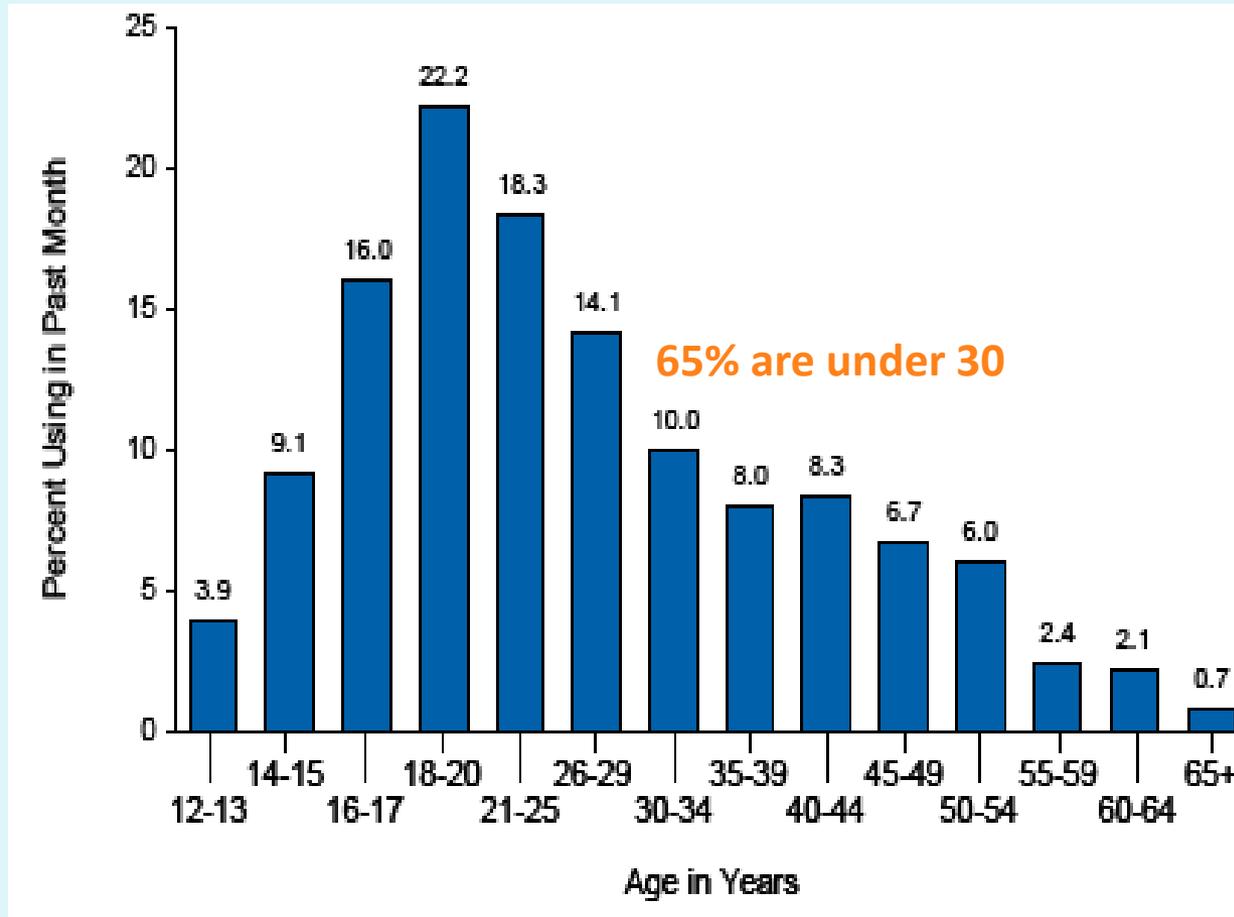


Anatomy of a Teenager's Brain

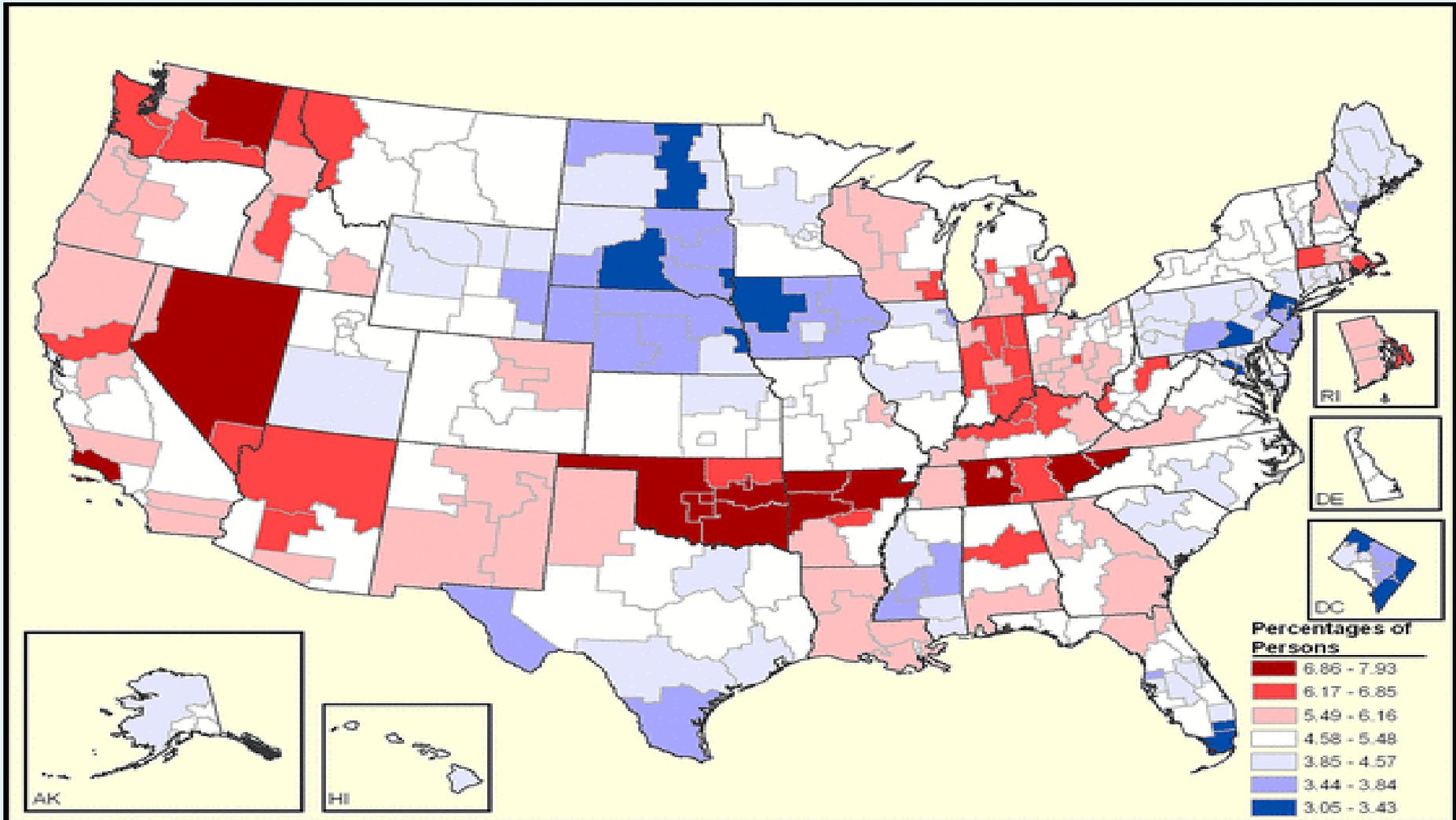


The Society for Neuroscience <http://www.sfn.org/index.aspx?pagename=brainBriefings> Adolescent brain

51% of All Drug Users Are Younger Than 21

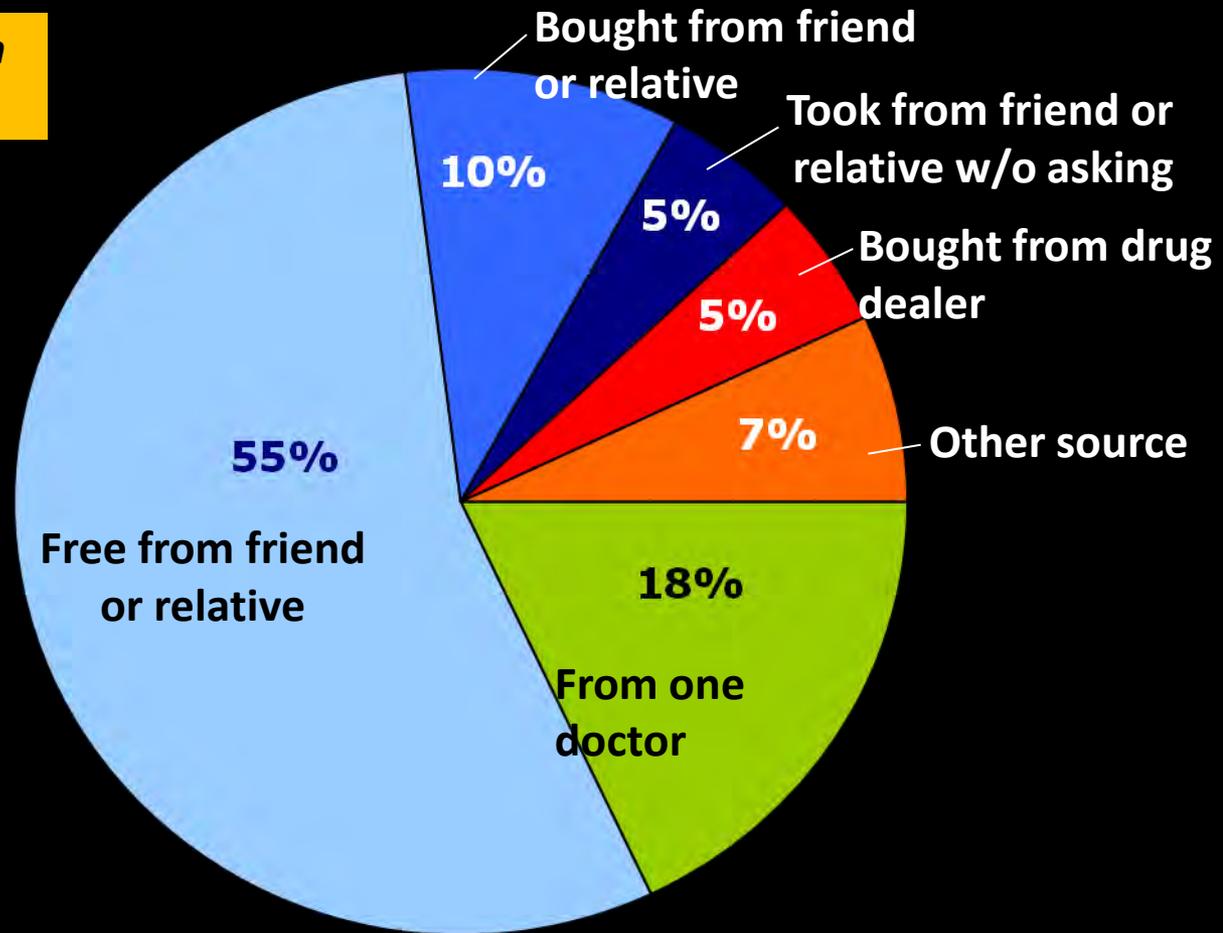


Nonmedical Use of Pain Relievers in the Past Year among Persons Aged 12 or Older, by Substate Region. Percentages, Annual averages based on 2006, 2007, 2008 NDSUH



Source of Pain Relievers for Most Recent Nonmedical Use Among Past Year Users

70% obtained from friend or relative*



*Percentage from friend or relative is derived before rounding of individual components.

Source: SAMHSA, 2009 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (September 2010).

Approaches for Adolescent Prevention

- Combine education into a comprehensive prevention continuum
- Engage teens in the process and planning of activities
- Build in leadership opportunities
- Involve families in group programs which are
 - Developmentally appropriate
 - Focus on positive alternatives, not solely on denial and responsibilities
 - Broaden views of self and others

New Faces of Appalachia



<http://tcbreakingthecycle.org/communityoutreachgallery.html>

A Sample of Community Coalition Response

Coalitions strategies for adolescent substance abuse prevention:

- Small grants from the Appalachian Regional Commission
- 64 small grants of \$3,000 -5,000 each
- Managed by East Tennessee State University
- 2006-2011

Clay County, TN Anti-Drug Coalition



Goals:

- Increase overall capacity of youth
- Increase compliance checks

<http://www.facebook.com/claycountysadd?sk=wall&filter=12#!/photo.php?fbid=189361477789913&set=a.189360454456682.47665.124792827580112&type=1&theater>

- Established Drug Hot Line with sheriff's office – student initiative
- Drug prevention puppet show
- Town hall debate with local officials
- Established community coalition



Monroe County TN Health Council Drug Task Group

Battle of the Bands

- Mentoring with Boys and Girls Club
- **PARK It** (Preventing Alcohol Related Krashes)
 - Alcohol-free after prom and after grad. Activities



<http://www.facebook.com/drugfreemonroe#/drugfreemonroe?sk=photo>



Grundy County, TN

- Leadership model for CAMP program for at-risk youth
 - 100% negative drug screens at 6 months
- Teens provide information at Health Fair, Take-Back event, community events, and in local media



ACTION – Johnson County, TN

Alliance of Citizens Together Improving Our Neighborhood

- “5th Quarter”
 - Dances after ball games
 - Youth-planned
- “On Appleby’s Farm” puppet show
- Youth programs
 - Leadership-focus
 - After school & summer
 - Strong school support
 - Training: Integrative Youth Development
- Low Ropes Course mobile team
- Car Show





DeKalb County AL Prevention Coalition

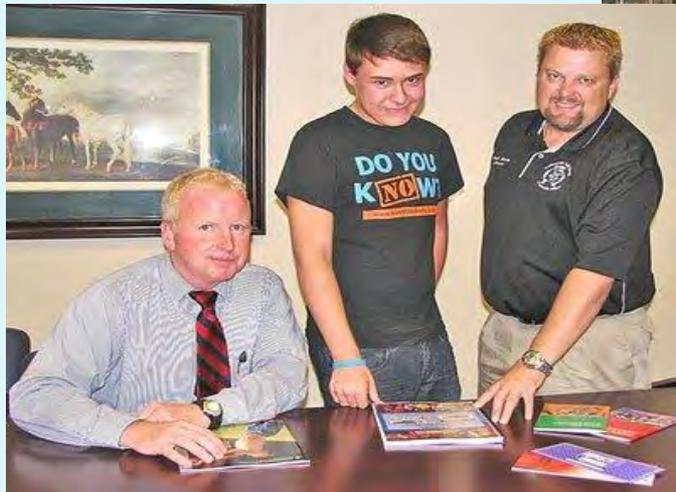


<http://www.partnershipdekalb.org/>

- Health class to deliver message to the Fort Payne school board that the community health epidemic can be addressed through science education. Students are the bridge.
- Student-to student mentoring

Jackson County TN Community Prevention Coalition

- Conduct assessments through focus groups and survey to build baseline data for permanent change.
- Collaborate with local health care community and local government leadership



http://www.herald-citizen.com/view/full_story/13481798/article-Making-a-Difference--Anti-drug-coalitions-join-forces-to-prevent-youth-drug-abuse-in-the-Upper-Cumberland

Pocahontas County WV Drug Abuse Prevention Advisory Group

Local teens will become a positive force in the community through leadership opportunities and producing a media presence.



Bowers/Health Families: Healthy Futures Conference

<http://www.highrocks.org/>

Taylor County WV Breaking the Cycle



<http://tcbreakingthecycle.org/communityoutreachgallery.html>



- First annual youth summit at Grafton High School
- Bring “The Choice Bus,” an interactive look at the consequences of the lack of an education to Taylor County



