



United Community for Youth Newsletter

A Collaborative Newsletter featuring the Healthy Community/ Healthy Youth Initiative, Tobacco Prevention, and Drug-Free Community Support Program

March/ April 2010 Edition

www.frc-sc.org

Activities and Events:

Town Hall Meeting on March 24, 2010 from 6:30—8pm in the Wombat Room at UW-Sheboygan: A Panel of experts and community members will answer questions regarding alcohol and its effects on the community, especially teenagers. Everyone is welcome!

Meetings:

Alcohol and other drug abuse meetings are held in the morning in Sheboygan at First United Lutheran Church on the 1st Wed. of each month and at noon in Plymouth at the PHS Boardroom the 2nd Thurs. of each month. Contact Phil Duket or Erik Wagner at (920) 892-6706 to attend.

Contact Information:

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I Have Assets: Horace Mann Middle School

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March's Asset of the Month is **Homework** and April's is **Service to Others**. The Healthy Communities/ Healthy Youth Initiative spotlights Sheboygan County organizations that promote these assets and this month it is Horace Mann Middle School.

It is evident from the homepage of their website to the hallways of the school that Horace Mann believes in building Assets in youth. Through their mission statement listed below, nearly all the Assets are expressed or implied.

We believe our mission is to
Provide positive, meaningful learning experiences;
Promote academic, emotional, physical, and social growth;
Encourage development of individual strengths, talents, and interests;
Promote respect and tolerance for others;
Develop positive home, school, and community relationships.

The last word in their mission is very important. In fact, the Assets when broken down to one word would be relationships. Horace Mann Middle School promotes relationships in different ways, one of which is through their many clubs. One such club, the Builders Club, focuses on volunteering in the community. That just happens to be April's Asset of the Month: **Service to Others**. They often visit Sunny Ridge Nursing Home where they make crafts and share them with the residents. What a great way to build intergenerational relationships - there is that word again - and is why the Builders Club and Horace Mann Middle School merits this issues spotlight. We all thank Horace Mann Middle School for its commitment to building Assets in youth!

For more information on Horace Mann Middle School and its programs, contact the middle school at (920) 459-3666 or visit <http://www.sheboygan.k12.wi.us/hmann/>. For more information on the Healthy Communities/ Healthy Youth Initiative featuring the 40 Developmental Assets, contact Erik Wagner at (920) 892-6706 or at erikfrc@excel.net.

Mary Jo Tittl
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Hours & Locations

In Sheboygan:
920-457-1888
2508 S. 8th St.

Sheboygan hours:
Mon. 9-5
Tues. 1-5
Weds. 9-5
Thurs. 9-1
Closed on Fri.

In Plymouth:
920-892-6706
1209A Eastern Ave

Plymouth hours:
Mon. 9-5
Tues. 1-6
Weds. 9-5
Thurs. 1-6
Closed on Fri.

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Speak Easy

*An Open Conversation about Teenagers, Alcohol, and Our Community,
Wednesday, March 24th at 6:30pm in the Wombat Room of UW-Sheboygan. All
are welcome at no cost.*

The Healthy Sheboygan County Alcohol and other Drug Abuse Committee in partnership with the Drug Free Communities Support Project is hosting a panel discussion on teenagers, alcohol, and our community on March 24th from 6:30 to 8pm in the Wombat Room of the University of Wisconsin-Sheboygan. There has been a reversal in the trends in the last decade; teen substance abuse is on the rise.

A panel of experts and community members will answer questions regarding alcohol and its effect on the community, especially teenagers. Invited participants to appear on the panel include: Judge Delahunt, Municipal Court Judge in Sheboygan, Rachel Gretebeck, an alcohol and drug counselor from BridgePoint Mental Health, a couple students who successfully made it through high school without using alcohol, a local parent, and Brent Multer, a Sheboygan County Sheriff Deputy. The panel will take questions from a moderator and then open it up to the public to voice their concerns and ask questions.

Communities throughout the nation are hosting Town Hall meetings as a way to bring awareness and educate the public on the impact of alcohol in our communities. You are invited to attend this Town Hall meeting as part of the nation-wide effort to ask questions and voice concerns on March 24th, in the Wombat Room of the UW-Sheboygan beginning at 6:30pm. For more questions, contact Phil Duket, Drug Free Communities Support Project Coordinator at (920) 892-6706 or at pduket@excel.net.

2008 Survey from Middle and High School Students Brings Good News about Tobacco Use



The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a free survey provided by the Department of Public Instruction for schools to utilize and gather information about a variety of risky behaviors that youth may partake. Schools and the community, at large, can then use this information to develop programs that target the risky behaviors, such as tobacco use, to combat the trend.

The Department of Public Instruction recently released data from the 2008 Youth Risk Behavior survey and there is some good news regarding teen tobacco use. The highlights include:

The trend of decreasing cigarette and other tobacco use among Wisconsin high school students now stretches over a decade. 2009 Wisconsin saw significant decreases on most measures of tobacco use on the YRBS.

- In 2009, 44% of high school students reported trying a cigarette at least one time in their life compared to 64% in 2001.
- The prevalence of students who smoked a cigarette before the age of 13 decreased from 27% in 1993 to 9% in 2009.
- During 1993-2009 a significant decrease occurred in the percentage of students who reported smoking a cigarette on one or more of the past 30 days (32%-17%).
- Reports of smoking cigarettes on school property in the past 30 days has decreased from 14% in 1993 to 5% in 2009.

Female and male students reported similar tobacco use behaviors, except for smokeless

Female and male students reported similar tobacco use behaviors, except for smokeless tobacco and cigars.

	Males	Females
Ever tried smoking a cigarette	45%	43%
Smoked cigarette prior to age 13	12%	10%
Smoked cigarette past 30 days	18%	16%
Used smokeless tobacco past 30 days	13%	4%
Smoked cigar past 30 days	21%	8%

Among students who smoke, heavy smoking behavior dropped significantly.

	1993	2009
Smoked on 20 or more of the past 30 days	16%	7%
Smoked more than 10 cigarettes per day on the days they smoked	15%	6%
Smoked cigarettes daily	25%	11%

Despite the positive results of the survey, we can never ignore tobacco and its potential for youth use and addiction. The access to tobacco is omnipresent and we need to be ever cognizant of the potential for an upward trend. For more information, contact Elizabeth Abler at the Sheboygan County Division of Public Health at (920)459-3038 or at ablereaa@co.sheboygan.wi.us.

"If you will think about what you ought to do for other people, your character will take care of itself."

- President Woodrow Wilson

The United Community for Youth Newsletter is a collaborative effort that would not be possible without the help from supportive affiliations such as The Family Resource Center, the Healthy Communities/ Healthy Youth Initiative, the Drug-Free Communities Support Program, the Healthy Sheboygan County Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Committee, and the Tobacco Free Coalition of Sheboygan County. For specific information on any of these projects, contact those mentioned at the end of each article OR for general information or resources specific to you, call the Family Resource Center at (920) 892-6706 or email erikfrc@excel.net.