Greetings from MCSAC...

Summer is here! The kids are out of school. Time for spending sunny mornings and long afternoons with family. We're especially pleased to bring you this edition to announce that MCSAC, mainly VetCorps, is part of the White House's National Drug Control Strategy for 2013. Check it out here on page 8.

Such an honor!

VetCorps Update

by Kelli Pond, VetCorps Prevention Coordinator

Thanks to our veteran partners who participated in the May 21st VetCorps meeting- United Way, Manatee County Veteran Services, The National Guard, Bay Pines Health Care, Suncoast Workforce and Goodwill. At the meeting we reviewed a proposed logic model addressing veteran homelessness and suggested ideas for creating an action plan. We also identified some of the shortfalls veterans face in receiving benefits.

Denise Thomas and Rose Stauffer of Team Manatee from the Rapid Results Boot Camp also updated us on their current efforts...
Manatee Youth Commission expands leadership training
Bradenton Herald: Teens take center stage in Manatee County pregnancy prevention

MCYC Update
by Jessica Spencer

This spring has been an amazing time for the MCYC! We had a huge turn-out at Let's Talk, received the Youth Group of the Year award from Healthy Teens Coalition (HTC), presented the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month proclamations, enjoyed a very successful recruitment and attended the National Youth Leadership Initiative training over Memorial Weekend -- so MCYC is on quite a roll.

MCSAC and MCYC held its version of a town hall event, Let's Talk, in April which tripled in attendance from the previous year. With a motivating guest speaker and inspiring adults from all walks of life and experiences in attendance at the tables, the youth facilitators were able to create memorable dialogues for all! The roughly 109 attendees were well fed and all received a goody bag stuffed with information, freebies and a Pittsburgh Pirate baseball cap on their way out.
We were contacted by HTC mid-May with congratulations, acknowledging Manatee County Youth Commission for winning Healthy Teens Coalition Youth Group of the Year! What an honor! On May 21, 2013 Ella, Toby, Emma, and Melissa received the award on behalf of MCYC after a reception with inspiring community stories!

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Chairperson, Ella Biggins' participation was essential to the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month proclamation process, by not only assisting with crafting the proclamation, but by presenting them at not one, but four local government meetings! With the support of MCYC members, Becky, Emma, and Halie, Ella proudly and professionally presented the proclamation and provided remarks to each group. Go Ella!!

MCSAC submitted a proposal to Central Florida Behavior Health Network to have a regional youth training and was honored to be able to create this opportunity for 112 regional youth and adults. Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) youth
trainers (high school senior, college sophomore and adult lead trainer) traveled from New England for the May 25-26th National Youth Leadership Initiative training. This was an wonderful opportunity for the region’s youth to learn the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) which provides a process for students to do an assessment of the problems their communities are facing, understand how to identify resources to address the problems and then begin to formulate plans to address their identified areas of interest. Some of the MCYC youth will be presenting the information on SPF to MCSAC during future meetings as a way to bolster the coalition’s capacity and allow the youth to share what they know in a meaningful way.

MCYC has had an amazing recruitment this spring with approximately 18 new members! This brings our total number of members to over 30!

Congratulations to MCYC graduated seniors Margaret Rivera, Raine Sagramsingh, Luis Aguilar and Alfred Lindsey, Jr.! We will miss you...

MCYC ended their year with an induction ceremony with a graduation acknowledgement reception on June 5th and then will be visited by Representative Jim Boyd in late June! More to come! The future looks bright for this amazing group of change agents.

**Calendar**

**June 11:** MCSAC Board Meeting  
2:00-3:30 p.m.
County Government Admin. Center
4th floor, Manatee conference room

**June 12:** MCSAC Coalition Meeting
2:00-3:30 p.m.
United Way-1701 Tamiami Trail (14th St. W), Bradenton
*All Welcome!*

**June 25:** VetCorps Meeting
10 a.m.
County Government Admin. Center
4th floor, Manatee conference room
*All Welcome!*

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**Coalition Contact Information**

Sharon Kramer, MEd., CPP
Executive Director
941-748-4501 x3491
skramer@drugfreemanatee.org

Rita Chamberlain, MBA
Associate Director
941-748-4501 x3477
rchamberlain@drugfreemanatee.org

Jessica Spencer, Ed.D, CPP, CAP
MCYC Project Director
941-748-4501 x3483
jspencer@drugfreemanatee.org

Kelli Pond
VetCorps Prevention Coordinator
941-748-4501 x3490
kpond@drugfreemanatee.org

Manatee County Substance Abuse Coalition
Manatee County Government Administrative Center
1112 Manatee Ave. W, Suite 303
Bradenton, FL 34205
941-749-3030

[www.drugfreemanatee.org](http://www.drugfreemanatee.org)