Red Ribbon Legislative Breakfast ~ Oct. 30th

You're Invited!

Please join MCSAC for the 10th Annual Red Ribbon Breakfast. This year's General Election has inspired MCSAC to take a Legislative theme. Everyone is invited to join community leaders and youth to celebrate Red Ribbon Week, in which people unite and take a visible stand against substance abuse. This year, an important panel of candidates will answer your questions about substance abuse and how their potential actions could benefit our community on the topic. Amongst those candidates expected to attend: Bradenton Mayoral candidate Marianne Barnebey, State Rep. Jim Boyd, U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan's Legislative Aide Gary Tibbets, Bradenton City Council Ward 2 candidates George Mendez & Binnie N. Williams, Palmetto City Commission "At Large" candidate Eric Gilbert, County Commission candidates Betsy Benac (District 7 "At Large") and James T. Golden (District 5) and Supervisor of Elections candidate Rodney "Smokey" Smithley.

Petition to Change Opioid Labeling

A group of 37 physicians, scientists, researchers and public health officials submitted a petition to the FDA to change the guidelines for prescribing Opioids. Click here to support the petition or to learn more.
The Red Ribbon Breakfast will take place on October 30th at 7:00-8:30 a.m. at Pirate City (1700 27th St E) in Bradenton. The event is free but you must send a reservation to jspencer@drugfreemanatee.org. Hope to see you there!

MCSAC Calendar

10/10 ~ MCSAC Meeting, 3-4:30 p.m., United Way, 1701 Tamiami Trail, Bradenton ~ ALL WELCOME!
10/18 ~ MCSAC Annual Board Meeting, 2-3:30 p.m., Manatee Co. Admin. Bldg., 4th floor Conference Room
10/23 ~ VetCorps Meeting, 3 p.m., Manatee Co. Admin. Bldg., Suite 303
10/30 ~ Red Ribbon Breakfast, 7-8:30 a.m., Pirate City, 1701 27th St E, Bradenton ~ ALL WELCOME with RSVP!

Manatee County Youth Commission
by Dr. Jessica Spencer Zemanek

It’s the beginning of another academic year and Manatee County Youth Commission (MCYC) is off and running! Recruitment efforts have been strong with the group doubling in size for the 2012-2013 year. The Youth Commission is co-hosting this year’s Red Ribbon Breakfast at Pirate City on October 30th, 7:00-8:30. Please join us and meet the nine local candidates who will answer questions facilitated by the Youth Commission. The Youth Commission will be trained by Hillsborough County Intergovernmental Relations Manager Brandon Wagner on how to formulate the questions to ask at the breakfast and why the youth voice and participation is important in local policy making and changes. Come support the youth commission and encourage your friends and neighbors to RSVP as well!

911 Good Samaritan Act takes effect on Oct 1st
by Wendy Nebrija
SB 278: Preventing Deaths from Drug-related Overdoses (aka 911 Good Samaritan Act) protects those seeking medical assistance for someone experiencing a drug overdose from being penalized. Fear of police involvement is the most common reason for not calling 911 during an overdose. 88% of Opiate users surveyed said the law makes it more likely they would call 911 during future overdoses. Read more: Bill protects those who seek help.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th
Before you go to the polls, know what/who you’re voting for! Voter Guide found here
The students will also focus on alcohol policy issues surrounding training of festival volunteers. With the STOP Act grant the youth commission will be directly working on one of their identified issues and areas of concern for the County - substance abuse.

In addition to policy work, Mike Nueges, Community Services, will speak with students along with Judge Scott Brownell, had a booth at this weekend's Children's Summit and will participate in two leadership training days! MCYC is increasing their social media presence since the beginning of the school year and have had an additional 22 likes on their Facebook page and changes to their webpage. Consider going to their Facebook page and indicate that you like them too!!

VetCorps CORNER by Dick Cusack

SAVE THE DATE!!! Community members willing to help formulate a plan and work together to address veterans' issues are invited to a meeting at Manatee County Government Administrative Center, Suite 303 on October 23rd at 3 p.m. I will present an overview of veterans/homeless issues. We will collectively identify the needs and gaps in services for Manatee veterans.

Thanks to the veteran representatives who attended the September Coalition meeting from Manatee Glens, United Way, One Stop/Community Coalition on the Homeless, Suncoast Workforce, Transitional Housing and AA. I appreciate your support of VetCorps and collaboration on veterans’ issues.
STOP Grant Award for Underage Alcohol Prevention Activities

MCSAC was recently awarded a federal grant to support our underage drinking prevention efforts. The STOP (Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking) Act grant from the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services totals $193,032 over the next 4 years. With the grant money, MCSAC will focus on three initiatives: a beach/party patrol intervention and enforcement effort, a Parents Who Host Lose the Most media campaign and the Manatee County Youth Commission that offers teens training and opportunities to affect community policy-making. Through the successful implementation of these activities, in conjunction with other current, ongoing efforts, MCSAC plans to bring Manatee’s youth alcohol rates to better-than-state-average levels, effectively an additional 3% drop from 2010 Manatee students’ 30-day use rates (as measured by the Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey) by 2014.

Coalition Contact Information

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