Schedule of Meetings

Wednesday, Sept. 10 -- 3 p.m. Coalition Meeting
United Way, 1701 Tamiami Trail West (14th Street W), Bradenton

Wednesday, Sept. 10 -- 4:30 p.m. Marijuana Task Force
United Way, 1701 Tamiami Trail West (14th Street W), Bradenton

Thursday, Sept. 11 -- 9 a.m. Alcohol Task Force Meeting
3rd floor Conference Room, Manatee Government Center
1112 Manatee Ave W, Bradenton

Tuesday, Sept. 16 -- 10 a.m. VetCorps Meeting
3rd floor Conference Room, Manatee Government Center
1112 Manatee Ave W, Bradenton

Tuesday, Sept. 23 - 2 p.m. Rx Drug Task Force
LECOM Medical Building, 5500 Lakewood Ranch Blvd.

Wednesday, Oct. 1 -- 2 p.m. Board Meeting
3rd Floor Conference Room, Manatee Government Center

Wednesday, Oct. 8 -- 3 p.m. Coalition Meeting
United Way, 1701 Tamiami Trail West (14th Street W), Bradenton

Thursday, Oct. 9 -- 9 a.m. Alcohol Task Force Meeting
3rd Floor Conference Room, Manatee Government Center

Thursday, Oct. 21 -- 7:15 a.m. Red Ribbon Breakfast
Pirate City, 1701 27th St E, Bradenton
DEA Tightens Rules on Drugs Containing Hydrocodone

"Move that would combat epidemic causing deaths"

Recently the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) announced its decision to place tighter controls on prescription painkillers that contain hydrocodone. The change mirrors legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL) that would reschedule those drugs from a schedule III to a schedule II, making them harder to prescribe and obtain.

"Today's announcement is a win for every man, woman, and child who has endured the horrors of prescription drug abuse," said Buchanan, the House sponsor of the Safe Prescribing Act of 2013 (H.R. 1285). "We are one giant step closer to curbing an epidemic that wreaks havoc on countless families and communities across our state."

The DEA's policy shift takes effect on October 6, 2014. Its purpose is to minimize misuse of the drugs for recreational use.

"Almost seven million Americans abuse controlled-substance prescription medications, including opioid painkillers, resulting in more deaths from prescription drug overdoses than auto accidents," said DEA Administrator Michele Leonhart on August 21, "Today's action recognizes that these products are some of the most addictive and potentially dangerous prescription medications available." (CADCA)

VetCorps Update

by Patti Durham
VetCorps Prevention Coordinator

In July, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) hosted their Mid-Year training in Orlando, Florida. Manatee County VetCorps was asked to present on successful veteran projects, as well as non-traditional avenues for volunteer recruitment. Being a hot topic... we had overwhelming interest, which resulted in a "COURSE FULL" sign being placed at the door.

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VetCorps: A Hot Topic at CADCA Mid-Year Training
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Sept. 11th National Day of Service
September is National Recovery Month

September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance

The September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance is the culmination of efforts originally launched in 2002 by the 9/11 nonprofit My Good Deed with wide support by the 9/11 community and leading national service organizations. This effort first established the inspiring tradition of engaging in charitable service on 9/11 as an annual and forward-looking tribute to the 9/11 victims, survivors, and those who rose up in service in response to the attacks.

In 2009, Congress designated September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance under bipartisan federal law, and charged the Corporation for National and Community Service with helping to support this effort across the country. For the anniversary, CNCS is working with My Good Deed and numerous other organizations to implement one of the largest days of charitable service in U.S. history.

Paying Tribute

On the anniversary of the September 11th attacks, Americans will unite in service in the same remarkable way that so many came together following the attacks.

As in years past, there are service and remembrance activities in all 50 states, at which there will be opportunities for hundreds of thousands of volunteers to paint and refurbish homes, run food drives, spruce up schools, reclaim neighborhoods, and support and honor veterans, soldiers, military families, and first responders.

Many people were moved to act in the days following
Evaluating our current volunteer methods, as well as researching this topic was beneficial for the Coalition since there was no coordinated plan for volunteerism in place. Registering on VolunteerMatch.com was suggested and the MCSAC quickly received eight volunteer requests. Three of those volunteers attended the coalition meeting where they were recognized. We also identified what areas the volunteers demonstrated the most interest, such as veteran issues and substance abuse task forces.

A 9/11 Service Day Project is the first opportunity for volunteer participation. With the assistance of the State College of Florida Collegiate School National Junior Honor Society, we will assemble 500 gratitude bags for distribution to Manatee County first responders (fire, rescue, law enforcement). Not only will Manatee VetCorps be demonstrating appreciation to local first responders, but we will continue to remember the many heroes of 9/11 and their ultimate sacrifices.

One of the projects in Manatee County this year is the "Gratitude Bags" project, led by national service volunteer and AmeriCorps*VISTA VetCorps member, Patti Durham. Mrs. Durham is serving for a year at the Manatee County Substance Abuse Coalition. As part of her service to the community, she is leading this National Day of Service project to thank all of Manatee County's first responders for their tireless efforts to serve and protect our community.

- September 3, 2014, at SCFCS, members of the National Junior Honor Society at the State College of Florida Collegiate School will assemble 500 gratitude bags filled with treats and goodies
- September 10, 2014, community volunteers will deliver gratitude bags to Manatee County First Responders, to include law enforcement, fire stations and Emergency Operations Center

For more information about the "Gratitude Bags" project, contact Patti Durham at 941-748-4501 ext. 3490.

SAVE THE DATE
Red Ribbon Legislative Breakfast:
Marijuana - Be a Smart Voter

The Manatee County Substance Abuse Coalition and Manatee County Youth Commission cordially invite you to the...

2014 Red Ribbon Legislative Breakfast

Discussing Amendment 2

Manatee County Sheriff Brad Steube (4th from L) attended the August Coalition meeting in August to discuss Amendment 2: The Florida Right to Medical Marijuana Initiative. Among other topics, he discussed the need for the media to participate in fair and balanced reporting regarding Amendment 2.

September is National Recovery Month!
Panel:
Manatee County Sheriff Brad Steube  
Bradenton Police Chief Mike Radzilowski  
Dr. Fabian Ramos, President-Elect, Manatee Medical Society  
Deputy Director Amy Ronshausen, Drug Free America Foundation  
Kathy Gardner, CPS/Rhode Island  
Dr. Teresa Rawe, ER Medical Director, Manatee Memorial Hospital  
Javier Cordova, MPA, Former Policy Advisor for Domestic & Int'l Drug Demand Reduction Policy/Programs

October 21st  
7:15 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.  
Pirate City  
1701 27th Street E, Bradenton

Please R.S.V.P. by October 14 to Patti Durham at pdurham@drugfreemanatee.org or call (941) 748-4501 ext. 3490

Please note no federal or state dollars are being used to support this event.  
MCSAC is responsible for the costs of guaranteed meals.  
No shows and late cancellations will be billed $10.00.

Recovery Month promotes the societal benefits of prevention, treatment, and recovery for mental and substance use disorders, celebrates people in recovery, lauds the contributions of treatment and service providers, and promotes the message that recovery in all its forms is possible. Recovery Month spreads the positive message that behavioral health is essential to overall health, that prevention works, treatment is effective and people can and do recover. (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - SAMHSA)

Find out more information here.

Remember, Manatee County Youth Commission is still recruiting!
Florida's youth in the State Capitol. This year, we hope to focus on education by creating a state-wide survey in which students and teachers would participate.

Our goal is to close the gap between students and teachers, and then teachers and the curriculum. I am so motivated and enthusiastic to work to improve the lives of Florida's youth; I know that I would never have had this opportunity, had it not been for my work with MCYC.

Get Social with MCSAC

[Social media icons]

Contact Us

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Project Director
(On sabbatical through November)