KFADD Newsletter

Kiwanis Family Against Drunk Driving
PNW Governor's Project
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"SOARING HIGH"

The old year is behind us and the New Year is ahead and thousands of Red MADD Ribbons have been distributed. The KFADD Campaign so far has been a GREAT success and it is all thanks to our fine Kiwanis Family. There have been so many wonderful projects that I wish I had the space and the time to list them all. But let's take a look at just a few:

Bellingham-Kulshan, Division 18: They have organized a K Family poster contest focusing on the Governor's MADD project. Their Builder's club will be designing a KFADD posters, their Circle K club will be judging them and their own club will be providing the prizes. This involves the whole K-Family.

The St. Maries Kiwanis and High School Key Club in Division 48 joined to support Governor Kempthorne's "You Drink, You Drive, You Lose!" campaign. They placed Red ribbons on vehicles belonging to youth to remind us all of the consequences of drinking and driving. Kiwanis also sponsored an ad on the local school run TV station about drunk driving and used the KFADD Poster as the basis for the ad.

In Division 19 Ken and Helen Brink worked with Sheriff Dept., Key Club, School Counselors and Intervention Specialists at Port Townsend High School to distribute **15 Minute Prepaid Phone Card** from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission. The front of the card says boldly **STOP and do the Right Thing - Have Fun, Live Long DRIVE SOBER, 15 minute Prepaid Phone Card.** When Helen spoke to the key club, she really got their attention, encouraging them not to drive while drinking, ask for a ride home if your driver has been drinking, help to leave an abusive situation or helping a friend or friends to find a safe way home by using the prepaid phone card (remember the card could be used more than once since there is 15 minutes available). Everyone was very responsive to this project.

In Bellingham Circle K Peach Arch Lt. Gov. Becky Ibach-Gunsauls arranged with a towing company to deliver a totaled truck on a flatbed to the WWU campus square The truck that she selected was pretty gruesome. The driver had been under the influence, and ran into a semi on Mt. Baker Highway. He died instantly. There was mixed reactions from students who walked by. Some would pass without even looking at it - Others would stop, stare and even try to get a closer look at the vehicle. With the curious students, they were able to initiate discussions about what had happened. One student had made a vow one year ago to never drink and drive again. Another girl had questions as to how to convince her friends not to get behind the wheel after drinking. Just having that vehicle there, completely destroyed, in the middle of the crowded square, made the point, it was hard to ignore. These students really brought home the point: **"THERE ISN'T REALLY ANYONE WHO CAN JUSTIFY DRINKING AND DRIVING. THERE IS NO SOUND ARGUEMENT."**

NOW we need to start concentrating on the next phase of the KFADD Project, **Student Contract** for Builders Club, Key Club and Circle K Club to not drink and drive or get into a vehicle with someone who has been drinking. I know that some places have already started this phase, but if you have not, begin today planting the seeds and getting those contracts ready to hand out to your sponsored youth groups and get them signed.

The idea here is to get each club member to sign a contract and get them on file. Then get each member of the club to start getting their friends to sign a contract. If each club member would get two of their friends to sign a contract and then those two friends got two more friends to sign a contract, before longthe whole school would be under contract with their parents, friends and the school to not drink and drive.

The contracts can be found in the KFADD package. If you do not have that package then get a hold of me or Cleve and we will email you the contracts right away.

We would like to have the contracts signed and on file by the end of April.

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Statistics

- NHTSA estimates that alcohol is involved in 40 percent of fatal crashes and in 8 percent of all crashes.
- **On average there is one alcohol-related fatality every 32 minutes.**
- An estimated 3 1 0,000 persons are injured in crashes where police report that alcohol was present - **an average of one person injured approximately every 2 minutes.**
- Approximately 1.5 million drivers are arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics. This is an arrest rate of 1 for every 121 licensed drivers in the United States.
- About 3 in every 10 Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives.
- Thirty-one percent of all traffic fatalities occur in crashes in which at least one driver or non-occupant had a BAC of 0.10 g/dl or greater. Sixty-nine percent of the 12,892 people killed in such crashes were themselves intoxicated. The remaining 31 percent were passengers, non-intoxicated drivers, or non-intoxicated non-occupants.

OTHER ITEMS

(1) I would still like to get some pictures of projects to post in the newsletter as well as put in my KFADD book. Sylvester and I get lots of KFADD emails, but pictures help emphasis the words. So, please remember to send pictures of the things you are doing. And especially, get pictures of students signing those contracts, what a story.

(2) In December I started a new job as the Executive Director of United Way of Kitsap County. My new office telephone number is (360) 377-8505 and my new office email address is at the top of the newsletter.

NEED WE SAY MORE!

Victims' Tribute: Carla Marie Thomas-Age: 9

On Christmas Eve, Carla and I (her grandmother) were on our way home from giving my parents their Christmas presents. 5 or 6 miles from home, a car was driving in my lane, running off the road. I swerved to the left lane, where he should have been. The next thing I knew I was hit; when I finally stopped, I called Carla. Carla didn't answer. I couldn't unfasten my seatbelt or open my door. The gentleman behind me reached in the passenger side and cut my seatbelt (the door was gone); I crawled out and said to him, "I have to find my grand daughter," I thought she was thrown out. Then I saw Carla and he said to me, "There's nothing you can do for her now." Carla died instantly. Her head was crushed and her face was torn up. All five morticians couldn't fix her; her head was completely wrapped in gauze and the casket had to be kept closed.

PLEASE-STOP DRUNKS BEFORE THEY DRIVE! DON'T LET ANOTHER CARLA DIE!