



KFADD Newsletter

Kiwanis Family Against Drunk Driving
News from around the Barbourpole

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CODE NIGHT

MADD Columbia County Community Action Site (formerly MADD Columbia County Chapter) in Oregon has been very active these past few months, dealing with the Underage Drinking problem. During July, chapter members assisted at the Columbia County Fair booth coordinated by the local service agencies who deal with drug issues on a regular basis. Agencies such as Columbia Community Mental Health, Commission on Children and Families, Drug Enforcement Agency and MADD provided activities and information for the general public on all issues that relate to substance abuse and families.

Concurrent with the booth was a presentation called an Emergency Services Information Fair, with a mock crash, rescue demonstration, bicycle safety, fire safety and even a mock Meth lab and hazardous-material clean-up demonstration.

During August, three members, including the Athletic Director from a local High School, attended the OJJDP Conference on Underage Drinking in Tucson, AZ. Following a series of local incidents involving alcohol use and risky behaviors by teens, it was important to have a presence at this Conference in order to begin making necessary changes within the communities. Members came back with several new ideas and materials for use locally. One high school has developed a newer, stricter athletic policy, as nearly ninety percent of their student body is involved in sports and school activities. Parents are becoming a part of the solution by having to attend "Code Night" with their student before a conduct agreement is signed allowing the student to participate. This provides the school with proof that parents and athletes alike know and understand the school's substance abuse and use policy.

Gone is the "I didn't know" response often heard from parents when their child has been cited. The new policy opens the door for quick intervention rather than punitive consequences. The consequences are present, but they are enforced in a manner that is fair and equally applied to all. There is also an educational component involved that requires the athlete and parent to attend a special class for MIP's before being allowed to return to the team. Although the policy is new, similar policies have been tried and successful across the country. It is hoped that this trend can be continued throughout the county, with all school Districts adopting a uniform policy.

Our children are our future and we need to accept the responsibility of being parents first, friends second.

Lynn Chiotti
KFADD-MADD Correspondent

VICTIM SERVICES NEWS

Announcing New 24-hour Live Helpline
(Adapted from “Letter from the VS Director” by Debbie Weir)

We are excited to announce that beginning August 1, 2005, MADD National Victim Services will launch a 24-hour live nationwide victim assistance helpline! The easy to remember telephone number, **1-877-MADD-Help**, can be a lifeline for new victims/survivors, established victims/survivors with urgent or pressing needs, and family members and friends.

Establishing a 24-hour live nationwide victim assistance helpline allows us to expand MADD Victim Services and increase service availability and visibility for injured and bereaved victims/survivors during night and weekend hours, as well as holidays, when local advocates may not be available to staff phones.

The helpline is staffed by counselors who have excellent experience in working with crime victims, including those who are injured and bereaved. They will provide supportive listening, guidance, and referrals. After the initial phone assistance, the helpline counselor will refer all victim/survivor callers to local chapters and/or state offices for ongoing support. At the local level, trained volunteer and staff advocates will provide one-on-one services, such as court accompaniment and local criminal justice information.

COMPLETING THE JOURNEY

The following article was received too late to be included in the August newsletter. This shows what a few people can do with a DREAM. The KFADD committee may be small in number, but our dream is to unite our Kiwanis Clubs behind the ideals that MADD chapters embrace, “to stop impaired driving and to support victims of violent crimes.”

(Let’s stop Drunk Drivers and Needless Victims).

Article received from Greater Vancouver chapter of MADD:

Completing the Journey is an initiative spearheaded by 3 Ottawa university students who decided to undertake a 16 day cross Canada trip in support of MADD after a friend of team captain, Darryl Otten, lost her brother-in-law in a suspected impaired driving related crash this spring. The trip is dedicated to the thousands of Canadian men and women that have lost their lives in alcohol related crashes and symbolically it is their journey they strive to complete.

They are participating in local events where they are present with a van and they are asking people to sign with messages of hope and remembrance. They in turn are asking for a small donation to MADD will also be distributing MADD Red Ribbons.

The team is on their last leg of the journey and will be passing through Vancouver, August 26th before they finally arrive in Victoria. This is a unique way to raise awareness, especially with youth and the public at large. Join us in completing this journey.

MADD is a “grass roots” national network formed of victims and concerned citizens working to stop impaired driving and to support victims of this violent crime. For more information about MADD Vancouver log onto www.maddvan.bc.ca.

Did you know?
STATISTICS in BC

1 out of every 5 drivers admits to driving while legally impaired - -0.08% BAC.
Number of Car trips taken every year by BC drivers whose blood alcohol concentration level is above criminal code legal limit is 2.5 million.

EVERY YEAR IN BC

Every year in BC, almost 100 people are killed and 3,000 are injured in alcohol related crashes.

The following received from MADD International:

TOP MADD STORIES

MADD's Silver Anniversary Cause For Celebrating Lives

"MADD's silver anniversary is a perfect opportunity to remember that every action our volunteers and staff, along with law enforcement, legislators, community leaders, moms and dads, brothers and sisters, take to fight drunk driving saves lives and prevents injuries," says Glynn R. Birch, MADD's new and first male national president.
"One of the 300,000 lives we have helped save may have been your own."

MADD Warns Impaired Motorists "You Drink. You Drive. You Lose."

MADD joins Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) in encouraging highway bill conferees to pass the Senate version of the Higher-Risk Driver provision, which includes high BAC drunk driving offenders, repeat offenders and those driving on suspending licenses due to drunk driving.

Second Year Decline In Alcohol-Related Traffic Fatality Numbers Promising

MADD is pleased that for the second year in a row alcohol-related traffic fatalities have decreased from 17,105 in 2003 to 16,694 in 2004. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), these numbers translate into a 2.4 percent decline from 2003 to 2004.

MADD, Ad Council Reach Hispanic Parents with New PSA Campaign Aimed at Preventing Underage Drinking

MADD, in partnership with The Advertising Council, announced today the launch of a new national public service advertising (PSA) campaign designed to increase awareness among Hispanic parents and caregivers about the consequences of underage drinking.

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TO ALL KFADD COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND ALL MADD CHAPTERS

UPCOMING EVENTS:

(Please advise any upcoming events you have scheduled for the next couple of months, and I will list them here in the next newsletter).

NEWS ITEMS:

(I need your help to put out an informative and interesting news letter. Please send me stories or news flashes that can be reproduced in the news letter. Your help will be greatly appreciated.)

e-mail to: barbourpole@ados.com

Thank you,
Roger Barbour
Co-chair
KFADD PNW Division