



Happy Holidays

Greater Gresham Area Prevention Partnership

*Information and updates for those supporting our
Drug Free Community Future*

COMING IN 2008 QUARTERLY COMMUNITY DIALOGS

In an effort to reach the GGAPP coalition goal; ***to increase community wide awareness of the risks of drugs and alcohol use by 10%*** we will begin working on scheduling four community dialogs. It is our hope that we can strengthen collaboration among the four East Multnomah County's communities' private nonprofit agencies, schools and local governments to prevent and reduce substance abuse among youth. Through dialogs we hope to;

- Inform, create and build a dynamic constituency to support community work.
- Build opportunities to partner and collaborate.
- Develop concrete actions for future planning and advocacy.
- Design strategies for resources and greater services cohesion.

Each dialog will be facilitated and may include one or more of the following topics for discussion:

- Assisting and supporting our schools prevention efforts.
- Police and public safety services needs – implementing a Peer Court.
- Homelessness – families, youth and single adults
- Poverty - emergency food, shelter and clothing.
- Community violence issues.
- Community services for parks, recreation and health.
- Employment supporting businesses and drug free workplaces.
- Mental health and drug treatment resources.

The meetings will be held the first Thursday of each quarter; the meetings will be convened in four community locations from 3-5 p.m. on a week day.

The first dialog will be held,

In partnership with the East County Caring Community

Thursday January 3, 2007 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room

Multnomah Co. Bldg 8th & Kelly, in Gresham

3-5 p.m.

In Please contact 503-823-0250 to reserve your spot!

YOUTH / SCHOOLS

SUN Schools and GGAPP are successfully partnering on FREE skill development, parenting /leadership workshops in the local schools. Open to parents who want to be leaders at home and in their community. Guiding Good Choices and/or Make Parenting a Pleasure slated for Alder, Davis, Dexter, Clear Creek, Lynch View and Harold Oliver Intermediate. Go to the GGAPP website for the updated information.

THE P.I.T. [Positive Identity for Teens] Proposal. A program model that provides supervised out of school time activities in community locations. Working with local agencies and volunteers to offer teens age 15 to 18 access to job information, life skills trainings and caring adults.

FAITH TEAM

This dynamic non-denominational faith based group is sharing values *not religion*. They are working on local advocacy issues, planning presentations for local faith communities and groups and asking faith leaders to be the **KEY PREVENTION STRATEGISTS**. The ten minute presentation outlines how faith communities can be a pro-active part of the larger GGAPP coalition; promote healthy family activities, provide resources and link to community efforts. We will be visiting a larger faith coalition in the New Year and working on local issues related to prevention.

DRUG FREE WORKPLACE

WorkDrugFreeOregon in partnership with the Gresham Chamber of Commerce is part of the Oregon state-wide business plan initiative to train local business on the implementation of Drug Free Workforce policies. Their efforts link to GGAPP via the initiative's fourth goal to *Elevate Importance of Student Job Readiness*. On February 21st local business leaders will be trained on how to make presentations to high school age youth about drug free employment opportunities. On March 14, GGAPP and the WorkDrugFree team of the Chamber will host a Chamber a.m. at the City of Gresham. JOIN US!

COMMUNITY PEER COURT

Local law enforcement, schools, the district attorney's office and local cities have convened to develop a work team for the peer court project. The group visited the Beaverton Peer court in November and will be meeting with officials from various jurisdictions over the next month. Three Portland State University students from the Criminal Justice program have joined the team and will be helping to design systems and presentations. Peer courts provide adjudication to non-violent local crime issues such as graffiti, vandalism, and alcohol and marijuana possession.

OUTREACH - MISSION INCLUDE ALL

The GGAPP web site is under construction with upcoming modifications to include an annual calendar of events, a location on the site where you can sign up for volunteering or being a part of a work team. Local community youth will be working on a campaign in the coming months for the spring prom season and it is envisioned that a youth page will be added to the site.

VOLUNTEER TO BE A PART OF GGAPP

Your time and expertise is welcomed and valued. We need people to participate in phone campaigns, presentations, marketing and outreach efforts as well as working with the teams listed above. Please make the coalition a part of your New Year's plans to make the world a better place – starting right here at home!

Contact: Cathy Sherick at PAL - 503-823-0250 or email c_sherick@yahoo.com

