



BOLD

BUILDING OUR LIVES DRUG-FREE

Volume 2, Issue 8

August 2007

Drug Paraphernalia Update

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BOLD convened a problem solving meeting on Wed, July 25. Attending were members of the different neighborhood associations, the Health Department, and members of BOLD.

Marilyn Edge, from the Health Dept., presented information on where glass tubes with tiny paper roses, incense or ball point pens are currently or have recently been sold in Fall River at retail stores. She reports there are 38 locations. A quick review of the retail store addresses reveals a correlation with locations where drug dealing and violent crime have occurred.

The tubes are used to smoke crack cocaine. They are also known as “straight shooters.” Some locations keep them behind the counter, already stuffed with a piece of a “chore

boy” type scrubber that is used as a filter by the drug user.

Marilyn also reported that the police chiefs in New Bedford, Somerset and Westport have banned these items, as has Chief Souza. In addition, the Chiefs in New Bedford and Westport have banned blunt wraps (rolled up tobacco products sold individually in colorful packets used primarily for smoking marijuana). They have many fewer establishments to police, however, than does Chief Souza in Fall River. They need our help so we are assisting the Fall River Police Department in their work to remove drug paraphernalia for retail sale in Fall River.

The committee discussed the following: 1) allowing the glass tube, crack pipes to be openly sold in the city implies approval of illegal

drug use to our youth (who know what they are used for); 2) the glass tubes are a “trigger” to use for those who are in recovery from, making their struggle harder; and 3) retailers licensed to conduct business in the city have a responsibility to the community to refrain from selling products which support illegal drug use.

The committee will solidify plans to educate the community about this issue, enlist everyone’s assistance in persuading retailers to stop selling drug paraphernalia, and encourage people in neighborhoods to patronize “good citizen” retailers. The committee welcomes volunteers. Our next meeting is Wednesday, August 8 at 4:30 p.m. For more info, contact Karen Fischer at 508-324-3537.

Teen Empowerment

The Fall River Women’s Union has generously provided funding for Teen Training in leadership skills, productive communication, and conflict resolution. Sapna Padte of Teen Empowerment (Boston) will lead these exciting workshops to be held August 28th and 29th in the SSTAR Training room.

The workshops will run from 11:30– 3:00 and lunch is included. This is an opportunity for young people from a variety of different backgrounds to identify the issues they are concerned with and work on solutions together.

Teens will practice giving and receiving feedback in various situations. They

will also explore ways in which feedback and other communication skills can be applied to youth programs and in their daily lives. Teens from TADA, the Mayor’s Youth Council, The May Institute, Project Yell, and many other programs will all attend. For more info, contact Susan Wolfson at 508 730-3307.



Rebuilding New Orleans: The Struggle Continues

BOLD staff Mike Aguiar and Nic Charest recently attended a S.A.D.D. (Students Against Destructive Decisions) conference in New Orleans. They attended with the peer leaders and staff from "Project YELL" in Taunton. On the first day of the trip, the group was given the opportunity to tour the 9th Ward of New Orleans with local *Louisiana Weekly* photojournalist Gus Bennett, Jr. During this tour the peer leaders from "Project Yell" were each given a photo assignment to work on and cover. One peer leader's photo assignment was to document the area churches and how much they meant to the community. Another one of the assignments was to shoot the local general and grocery stores, or lack thereof. Another project included shooting

the groups of sunflowers that many residents were planting on their properties to absorb the toxins from the soil. The peer leaders had to follow that up with research on the effectiveness of this strategy. The other assignment was studying the graffiti in different the neighborhoods and studying the community and finding out what it meant in that particular community. The peer leaders were then asked to organize these photos into a presentation to bring back to their local agency and peers.

The feeling everyone came away with from this experience was one of surprise at the devastation and the slow progress being made in rebuilding New Orleans. While more affluent neighborhoods were being rebuilt as well as many of the

tourist areas, the low income neighborhoods seemed to be in the same condition we had all seen in the news after the water receded. Houses still had the escape holes in the roof. The markings from search crews were still painted on the houses. Cars sat on top of cars; houses sat on top of houses Mud and debris were everywhere, as well as a very unpleasant odor.

The FEMA trailers, which housed the folks displaced by hurricane Katrina, went on for miles. There are literally cities of trailers as far as you can see, with individuals, families and the elderly crammed into very tight quarters. This crisis may be out of favor with the media, but it is nowhere near over for those people affected by it! (If you would like to help, see story below)



Members of Project Yell and BOLD Staff pose for a picture with "Common Ground Relief" and rapper Chuck D. in New Orleans' Lower 9th Ward.



This picture accurately displays the devastation caused to many of the neighborhoods by Hurricane Katrina.

Authentic New Orleans Luncheon

On **August 31** from 12:00-1:00 at SSTAR we are very happy to present the results of the work from the "Project Yell" Peer Leaders. Gus Bennett from the *Louisiana Weekly* will join us and make his home-made "best gumbo in New Orleans" for us! He will also share his photos and those taken by the Project Yell peer leaders and discuss his experi-

ence as a resident of the 9th ward during the disaster. April Cabrera from "Project YELL" will also be helping with cooking duties by making her Blackened chicken Po' Boys and jambalaya! We will have drinks and dessert also. In the spirit of helping to rebuild the city we would like to ask a \$15 donation. The proceeds will be sent to "Common

Ground Collective," a community-initiated volunteer organization offering assistance, mutual aid and support to victims of Hurricane Katrina.

SPACE IS LIMITED and tickets are required. Please contact Mike Aguiar at 508-324-3598 for tickets or information.

Compliance Checks In Tobacco Sales to Minors

A new study reports that in the Seattle area at least, convenience stores with gas pumps are the most likely to violate laws banning the sale of tobacco to minors. The researchers, who present their findings in the August issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, examined the results of more than 8,800 compliance checks in which underage teenagers went into stores and tried to buy cigarettes. While the average of successful purchases over the roughly four years looked at was 7.7 percent, the average at convenience stores was significantly higher. The lead author of the study, Dave C. Pearson of the Group Health Community Foundation in Seattle, said it was unclear why those stores would be

more likely to sell to minors, but suggested that "it could be something in the nature of the transactions." Clerks in stores selling gas tend to deal with drivers eager to be on their way. "They're probably preoccupied," Dr. Pearson said.

Compliance checks on tobacco sales are required by federal law, which ties money to the ability of states to keep sales to minors below 20 percent.

For the checks in King County, WA, youth ages 14 to 17 were directed to go into stores to buy cigarettes. They could not lie about their ages, and if asked to produce identification they were to say they had none. A little over 4 percent of the illegal sales were to 14-year-olds, 8 percent to 16-year-olds and

26 percent to 17-year-olds. Female clerks were more likely to make the sales than males.

The study said compliance checks appear to be a good way to help keep cigarettes from children, noting that stores that had been checked in the past have a lower rate of selling when checked this time around.

Note: Marilyn Edge of the Fall River Health Department conducts tobacco compliance checks in the Fall River Area.

(The New York Times, Tuesday, July 17th, 2007).

Be a BOLD Volunteer
Call 508-324-3537

S.A.D.D. National Conference

The recent SADD National Conference attended by BOLD staff served to empower all participants, both youth and adults, and to promote a youth community that deals effectively with destructive influences and encourages personal growth among youth so that they can help create positive change in their own communities.

Everyone who attended had the opportunity to meet with other

youth participants from across the nation for the purpose of sharing their ideas, experiences, and programs. Through the different workshops they participated in, they learned about SADD's key issues including traffic safety, underage drinking, other drug use, and teen violence and suicide. Among the many workshops there were: Developing Resilient & Positive Decision-Making Skills; UR the Spokesper-

son; I Can Beat Big Tobacco; & A Future With Promise.

This Conference really helped its participants to develop personal leadership skills that will enhance their local SADD chapters and for this purpose, we at BOLD envision starting our own local SADD chapter teaming up TADA with the already existing group at Bishop Connolly to further SADD's mission nationwide.

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Word Search

BOLD	Drug Free
Summer	Vacation
Beach	Swim
Cookout	Sandal
TADA	SADD



BUILDING OUR LIVES DRUG-FREE

Is now on the internet. Please visit www.boldcoalition.org or www.myspace.com/boldcoalition





386 Stanley Street
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Building Our Lives Drug-Free



Meeting Schedule

AUGUST 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Aug 7: Mission/Vision Mtg. 2:00pm @ SSTAR.

Aug 8: Drug Paraphernalia Project Mtg. 4:30pm @ SSTAR.

Aug 16: Advisory Board Mtg. 8:30am @ SSTAR.

Aug 23: BOLD Communications Mtg. 3:00pm @ SSTAR.

Aug 31: Rebuilding New Orleans Fund Raiser Luncheon.
12-1pm @ SSTAR.

Parenting Wisely Group Schedule @ SSTAR:

August 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29.
Groups begin at 12:00 & 5:30pm.

TADA Meeting Schedule: To Be Announced.