

B.O.L.D.

In Print



BUILDING OUR LIVES DRUG-FREE

Volume 1, Issue 3

May, 2006

FDA Comes Out Against Medical Marijuana

On April 20, 2006, the Food and Drug Administration publicly committed to warnings against the use of medical marijuana. Since this warning was issued, both pro and anti-legalizers have commented that the Food and Drug Administration's statement could have chilling effect on state referendums seeking to legalize marijuana for medical purpose.

Congressman Mark Souder (R-3rd/IN) has been calling for this official admonishment since 2003. He has consistently expressed concern the Food and Drug Administration has not provided meaningful information on its website about the dangers and fallacy of "medical marijuana."

A letter from Souder dated January, 2006 said: "It is long

past time that the FDA post accurate information about the claims of "medical" marijuana on its website. As is the case with the bogus flu remedies, there is not "any scientific evidence that demonstrates the safety or effectiveness" of smoked marijuana for treating a single disease, and the agency should most definitely be "concerned that the use of these products could harm consumers."

The statement released last week from the FDA addressed the arguments made

by those who endorse the use of medical marijuana. They caution against believing such claims in light of the fact that smoked marijuana for medicinal purposes has not undergone "the rigorous scientific scrutiny of the FDA approval process" or received the FDA much valued stamp of approval, used for all forms of medication.

Written by: Adrienne Bory
CADCA Coalitions Online.
April 27, 2006.



Quarterly Coalition Meeting

On March 28th, the BOLD Coalition had its quarterly meeting and Bristol Community College. This meeting was held in combination with a Town Meeting focusing on Underage Drinking.

At this meeting, each subcommittee updated everyone on what projects they were

conducting and participating in. During the Town Meeting, TADA members read touching stories written by other area youth relating to how alcohol and drugs have affected their lives. Also different members of the community spoke about the same issue.

We would like to take this

opportunity to thank everyone who attended this meeting and helped make it possible. We would also like to remind everyone that our next quarterly, full-coalition meeting will be held in June. We hope that everyone can attend and more details will follow in the upcoming newsletter.

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Working Together to Prevent Substance Abuse in the Greater Fall River Area Schools

Schools have become the primary setting for drug prevention efforts. However, education and prevention programs alone are not enough. Explicit standards and norms for behavior are also important component of any school-based prevention effort. While these standards can be established in a number of ways, the most important means is the adoption of a comprehensive and effective School Drug Policy. Adopting a clear School Drug Policy and communicating this policy to students and staff on a regular basis is an important component in preventing drug

abuse.

The BOLD coalition invites community members to join a new project aimed at youth at risk for substance abuse.

The project's goal is to work with the schools regarding their School Drug Policy. It will be a time limited effort to identify how the various local school systems address youth exhibiting substance abuse behaviors at their schools. The group will review the current policies and procedures, interview school personnel about perceived success or difficulty with their present effort, and research

school systems and communities across Massachusetts for the best "practice model." The project may include a workshop on the variation of the policies in Fall River and training on how the community and school can work together on different aspects of the problem.

We envision a commitment of approximately 10 hours by each volunteer to complete this project. Please call and join us.

Michael Aguiar
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Getting Prepared for Crystal Methamphetamine in Massachusetts

This training is for substance abuse, mental health, child welfare, public safety, and medical personnel.

Date:

Location:

June 21, 2006

Radisson Hotel, Marlborough

June 22, 2006

Best Western Sovereign Hotel & Conference Center, Springfield

June 23, 2006

Holiday Inn Select Government Center, Boston

All Trainings will occur from 8:30 am- 4:30 pm.

For more information contact Mike Aguiar.

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Parenting Wisely

Parenting Wisely is an interactive CD-ROM program that teaches parents 13 effective parenting skills, such as active listening, I statements, and assertive discipline. Parenting Wisely is available for parents of teens, parents of younger children; Spanish-speaking parents of teens, and parents and staff dealing with children in foster care and/or residential care situations.

You do not need computer skills to view Parenting

Wisely. This program is free and open to any parents, step-parents, grandparents, or anyone looking to improve their communication skills.

To set up an appointment to view Parenting Wisely, call (508) 324-7775. After viewing Parenting Wisely, you then have the option to join our 10-week parenting group. Ask a Parenting Wisely Facilitator for more information. You can also contact Amy Curry or Susan Wolfson.

Bold is a proud member of Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America and is supported by Stanley Street Treatment & Resources Inc.



T3: Teens Tackle Tobacco Youth Summit Update

On April 8th, 2006, Teens Against Drug Abuse (TADA) participated in a statewide Youth Summit entitled *T3: Teens Tackle Tobacco*. The event was planned and sponsored by the Medical Foundation. This summit covered the issue concerning youth around tobacco (second-hand smoke). SSTAR Youth Program Coordinator Mike Aguiar and Project coordinator Matt O'Donnell along with TADA members Jasiel Correia II, Sasha Levitskaya, Meredith Taylor, Tony Cowen, Darwin Frometa, and Jared Luciano all attended the summit. This summit gathered different groups like TADA from around the state for an all day event. These groups were awarded \$1400 or \$10,000 grants to fight tobacco within their communities. The day was planned out with 2 workshops, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. These workshops were aimed at getting everyone to share and learn about other groups and their projects. Other activities con-

sisted of role calls, conversation breaks, and guest speakers. One of the guest speakers, Cynthia, discussed the value of what we are doing as young people with a Power Point presentation outlining tobacco related issues and some of the things she has worked on in the past. Cynthia has attended other major tobacco related summits and has carried out large-scale tobacco awareness events, like those seen on television, in our state and country's capitols. These events have been large enough to attract national press coverage; such as "Drop Dead Day." There a large group of youth pretended to "Drop Dead" in front of the state's capital to signify how many people die daily from smoking. Different events like this have helped raise support and awareness of the dangers of tobacco.

Later in the day, all the groups got together to devise and plan a large-scale event dealing with the number 182. This number is significant because 182 youth begin

smoking everyday in the state of Massachusetts. These events would take place either within their respective communities or possibly in Boston. Some of the ideas that came up were a large walk in Boston.

TADA was granted the privilege of closing the summit with an organized youth forum, which consisted of questions from how the day was to "what you would say to a tobacco executive?" The forum went well and was a success. This youth summit provided young people the opportunity to share and exchange thoughts and to raise awareness about tobacco. This summit was another step into the right direction for a tobacco-free environment for youth to grow and develop. TADA will further discuss the youth summit at our next meeting on May 1st at the Durfee Student Service Center at 4:00 p.m.

Written By: Jasiel Correia II, TADA Chairperson & Bishop Connolly Student.

The BOLD Coalition needs you.

Would you like to write a column for "BOLD In Print?" Do you have anything that you would like to see in our newsletter? Have you read any relevant articles or heard of any upcoming community events that you would like to have posted for everyone to see? Please let us know. We are happy to accommodate you in any way possible. If you would like to submit anything for our newsletter, please contact Nic Charest.

E-Mail: ncharest@sstar.org

Word Search

J	A	S	I	E	L	L	I	K	E	S
H	I	S	N	A	M	E	I	N	P	P
P	R	I	N	T	T	A	D	A	R	A
B	Y	Y	U	K	B	C	R	S	O	R
A	O	W	H	A	T	E	U	M	J	E
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WORDS

BOLD	PRINT
DRUG FREE	TADA
PARENTING	WISELY
SMOKE	SECOND HAND
YOUTH	ROLE MODEL
PROJECT	ALERT



BUILDING OUR LIVES DRUG-FREE

Is now on the internet. Our site will be up and running very shortly.

Please visit www.boldcoalition.org



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BOLD

Schedule of Meetings:

- May 1:** TADA! Meeting
3:30 @ Durfee High.
- May 3:** Healthy Youth Task Force
3:30 @ Durfee High.
- May 4:** Mayor's Youth Forum
3:00-7:45 @ BCC
Building G.
- May 8:** Event Planning Meeting
3:30 @ SSTAR Youth
Center.
- May 10:** BOLD Print Meeting
3:00 @ SSTAR Youth
Center.
- May 17:** Strategic Planning Mtg.
3:00-5:00 @ Boy's Club.
- May 17:** Advisory Board Meeting
4:00 @ SSTAR.
- May 22:** Event Planning Meeting
3:30 @ SSTAR Youth
Center.
- May 31:** Strategic Planning Mtg.
3:00-5:00 @ Boy's Club.

May 2006

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 *			