



McDowell County FACES Newsletter

The FACES of HOPE

July, 2015

facesfrn.com

email: facesfrn@yahoo.com

THE PRICE OF FREEDOM



Alone at Arlington Cemetery, we do not know for whom this child reaches out to: perhaps a father, mother, grandfather, or grandmother. We simply see a small child in front of one stone amongst thousands that mark the place where a soldier has been laid to rest. Rest from what: from the sound of war! Perhaps the last thing he/she remembers before their death is the voice of a comrade who holds their hand, or perhaps the screams of those around as the horrors of war take them all. We do not know, we simply understand the final resting place is sacred to us for our departed loved ones while resting in the earth remain in our hearts and minds forever.

As we come into July, we think of what our independence represents. For many it is simply a fun day at the lake, picnic, beach, etc., but for what purpose should it serve.

Let's look at the first paragraphs of the Declaration of Independence.

“When in the Course of human

events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accus-

tomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.-- Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States.”

This is why freedom comes at a price! Why, according to research, there were from 1775-present:

Total Dead or Wounded = 2,852,901

Missing = 40,917

Respect your country, it's independence, its soldiers and others that lost their lives or were wounded so you could have these freedoms. As you celebrate, honor them for their sacrifice.

Underage Drinking Rates Increase During the Often-Times Unmonitored Summer Months

Summer is Prime Time to Talk To Kids About the Dangers of Underage Drinking

By: [Frances M. Harding](#), Director, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration

Did you know that the average first use of alcohol by young people in the United States **peaks in June and July**? Every day in the month of July, an average 11,600 young people **take their first drink**. Also, young people report that alcohol is easy to obtain, and new forms of alcohol distribution, like online ordering, present new challenges to underage drinking prevention. That's why it's especially important that parents start – or continue – the conversation about underage drinking during the summer months.

Fortunately, the longer days and warmer nights of summer can provide plenty of opportunities for parents to talk with their kids. Summer time means family time. Road trips, barbecues, bike rides, and ballgames give parents and kids more time to connect without the pressures of homework, exams, and the after-school hustle and bustle.

SAMHSA's "Talk. They Hear You." app can help parents prepare for one of the most important conversations they may ever have with their children.

This free app, available through the

App StoreSM, Google Play, the Windows[®] Store, and Windows[®] Phone Store, features an interactive simulation that uses avatars to help parents practice bringing up the topic of alcohol, learn the questions to ask, and get ideas for keeping the conversation going.

The app is part of SAMHSA's "Talk. They Hear You." Underage Drinking Prevention National Media Campaign, which encourages parents and caregivers to talk with children early about the dangers of alcohol. Additional resources and information about the campaign and underage drinking prevention is available at <http://www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov>.

With students out of school and parents at work, the summer months provide a prime opportunity for teens to be unmonitored. The tips below can be shared with parents to set the community-wide tone that underage drinking is unsafe, unhealthy, and unacceptable.

- **Set Summertime Rules:** Make clear your rules regarding unsupervised time spent with friends, as well as your expectations surrounding drinking, smoking and other risky behaviors.
- **Supervise:** This can be challenging for parents of high school students; however, be physically present when you can. And when you can't, try asking a neighbor to ran-

domly check in.

- **Monitor:** Know with whom and where your child is at all times. Randomly call and text your teen to check in, and don't be afraid to check up on your child by calling another parent.
- **Engage:** Provide some structure to your teen's summer by helping him/her find a summer job or engaging him/her in a supervised activity (sports, camps, classes, etc.).
- **Team Up:** Get to know the parents of your teen's friends. Speak with them to ensure you have a unified and consistent no-use stance.
- **Stay Involved:** Show your teen you care by taking time out of your busy schedule to do something fun and interactive together this summer (head to the movies, volunteer together, take a bike ride, etc.).
- **Communicate:** Regardless of season, it is always a good time to talk to your teen about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Open (or maintain) the lines of communication and be your child's trusted source of information.

This information was taken from the June edition of the Drug-Free Action Alliance Newsletter.

You can visit the Drug Free Action Alliance at www.DrugFreeActionAlliance.org and on Facebook.

Submitted by Kathy Nafus, Coordinator, Kenton County Alliance which can be found on the web at kentoncountyalliance.org or on Facebook.

Prevent Child Abuse America Annual Report



The Annual Report is Out!

The [2014 Prevent Child Abuse America Annual Report](#) has been released. And what a year it has been!

"Every day for the past year, I have made it my goal to stretch and challenge myself with one purpose in mind: to ensure that all children have the great childhoods they deserve because our children are our future. All of us at Prevent Child Abuse America feel the same way; that's why we work here."

- James M. Hmurovich, President & CEO, Prevent Child Abuse America
Last year was a year of planning and growth for Prevent Child Abuse Ameri-

ca, resulting in a new strategic plan for the organization, expansion of our Healthy Families America network and the decision to unveil a new logo in April 2015.

To learn more, check out the 2014 Annual Report at

www.preventchildabuse.org.

Local resources are

Stop the Hurt at 304-436-1600

DHHR at 304-436-8302

The Carry-On Campaign: Providing Luggage for Children in Foster Care



No child should have to leave home carrying only a garbage bag. Please help by donating new or gently used luggage or duffle bags, in addition, if you are able, please pack them with some of these essential items for children in foster care:

- ⇒ Toothbrush, paste, and container
- ⇒ Non-perishable snacks
- ⇒ Hair brush or comb
- ⇒ Books and journals
- ⇒ Flip flops
- ⇒ Crayons, coloring books
- ⇒ Blanket
- ⇒ Disposable camera
- ⇒ Flashlight
- ⇒ Toiletries
- ⇒ Travel soap.

"They had never really had NEW things like this before and to see the smiles those bags brought to their faces was awesome. It made their transition to the foster homes a lot easier as they could think about something else during the trip" Child Protective Service Worker.

Partners: Mission WV, Inc; WV DHHR; US Attorney's Office; Southern District of WV; WV Endangered Children Task Force; WV Child Advocacy Network. Contact: 866-225-5698 or cdawson@missionwv.org

Give Thanks and Carry On



Prevent Child Abuse America



National Movement for America's Children as Connect the Dots has a new website: <http://www.whatsyourdot.org/> we hope you will take a look at!

We also hope you will sign-up at the new site so we can send you updates about our activities.

And what we *really* want you to do is tell us what your "dot" is, i.e., what kind of everyday activities are you engaging in on behalf of your family, the families you know and your community.

Please sign-up and let us know what you think of the new site, both the positives and what we can improve, and please let us know if you have any questions.

Courageous Communities News

Courageous Communities (Task Force of the McDowell County HOPE Coalition)

Courageous Communities sponsored a CQI for the Hope Christian Academy with the focus of increased enrollment and quality of education. Courageous Communities are in the process of opening up a community center at the Light and Life Campus. The beginning program is a Lifetree Café. Lifetree Café is a place for people to come without judgement to sort through their life journey and if and how God works in their world. All that is done in one hour in a coffee house atmosphere. <http://lifetreecafe.com/>

Courageous Families Activities included:

Sponsoring the Movie Beyond The Mask July 8th <http://www.beyondthemaskmovie.com/home;>

Working with families

Book study, Scream Free Marriage with husband,

Working with court ordered supervised visits with family. We are having great progress.

Family Day at the Park had 7+ families (40 people) and provided food and fun

Strengthen Families Conference with 3 people attending

Outreach at Elkhorn Towers – Family Service Project

Hosted 6 families for Seder Meal (Passover)

Courageous Fathers had their board meeting to begin setting the foundation for the coming year.

Courageous Parents had a car seat safety check at Linkous Park.

Courageous Youth is working to raise funds for center that will host Boxing Club, Karate and Basketball.

For more information on any of these items, contact Community Crossing at 304-436-8300.

Meetings/Events of Interest

**McDowell County
FACES
Board Meeting
July 9, 2015
12:00 noon FACES
Office**

RSVP 304-436-5255

**Alcohol Tobacco and
Other Drug Task
Force**

July 20, 2015

4:00 p.m.

Sterling Drive Inn

**Contact Ginger at 304-436-
5255**

**South Central
Community
Collaborative**

July 16, 2015

Wyoming County DHHR

10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon

**Safe At Home Initiative: your
help is needed to keep our chil-
dren in WV.**

Energy Express: June 29—July 31

Schools: Welch, Fall River, Kimball, Anawalt, Bradshaw. To get an application, youth need to see their principals.

This is a five (5) week summer reading and feeding program.

July 20-25, 2015

Ages 9-18

Applications can be obtained at the WVU Extension Office.

Contact Donald Reed at 304-436-9006.

Positions Available

Parents As Teachers Position Available

Seeking compassionate, non-judgmental individuals who want to make a difference. Parents as Teachers Home Visiting Program seeking Parent Educators. Two full-time positions available in McDowell County. Position requires organizational skills, passion for working with young families, knowledge about early child development, ability to manage your own schedule and complete tasks as required. Must have dependable transportation, travel overnight on occasion for trainings, and work well as a team as well as individually. Early Childhood degree appreciated, but high school diploma with two years experience in early childhood is minimal requirement. Salary based on experience. Send resumes to The Community Crossing PAT Program, 225 Maple Ave., Welch, WV 24801 or karen@communitycrossing.org

The "Parents as Teachers" Mission: To provide all parents with research-based child development information, guidance, assistance, and family support that encourages the development of young children. Our vision is that all children will learn, grow, and develop to realize their full potential.