



SUNCOAST KEEP KIDS DRUG FREE PREVENTION CENTER



January 2012 Edition

In partnership with NCI Systems, Inc. and
LiveFree!

Community
Updates

The Latest

About the
Speakers Bureau

Presentation
Topics

Speakers' Bios

Schedule a
Presentation

Keep Kids Drug Free License Plate



Example tag

Florida taxpayers...tired of spending millions cleaning up alcohol and/or drug-related tragedy?

Invest in prevention today by purchasing a license tag.
Help us Prevent Alcohol, Prescription Drug Misuse and Other Drug Use by
Pinellas County Youth!

Get your "Keep Kids Drug Free" License Plate at the Tag Office.
Proceeds go directly to alcohol and drug prevention programs to keep kids drug
free in your area. Go to: www.kkdf.org

Community Updates

2012 PTA Advocacy Awards Nomination Process is Now Open!

National PTA is pleased to honor outstanding advocacy on behalf of every child at the [2012 National PTA Legislative Conference](#). PTA Advocacy Awards will highlight advocacy work of an individual (Shirley Igo Award), local/district/regional unit (Local Outstanding Advocacy Award) and state unit (State Outstanding Advocacy Award). Awards will be presented during a luncheon on Capitol Hill during the Legislative Conference. All award nominations are due via the online submission process (using the below links) by **5:00 p.m. PST, Tuesday, January 10, 2012**. Winners will be notified the following week.

To learn more about each award and complete the application for each award, please visit the links below.

[2012 Shirley Igo Advocate of the Year Award Nomination](#)

[2012 Local PTA Outstanding Advocacy Award Nomination](#)

[2012 State PTA Outstanding Advocacy Award Nomination](#)

Please contact jchevalier@pta.org with additional questions concerning the 2012 PTA Advocacy Awards nomination process.



8th Annual Town Hall Meeting- Florida Kids and Alcohol

In partnership with WEDU, LiveFree! is planning the 8th annual Town Hall Meeting. The event will look at alcohol use, prescription drug use, marijuana use and other drug use in Pinellas County and the State of Florida. The event is scheduled to take place on April 3, 2012 at Pinellas Park High School, doors will open at 5:30pm. More information to come over the next few months! Contact LiveFree! Executive Director Jackie Griffin at jgriffin@operpar.org to get involved!

2021 Be More Awards

Operation PAR is a finalist in the 2012 Be More Awards, Be More Humble category. This award was driven by an online poll from the general public in the WEDU viewing area. This prestigious award exhibits the connection and relationship the organization has with the community and the people it serves. The winner will be announced on Thursday, Friday 9, 2012 at the A La Carte Event Pavilion in Tampa, FL. Tickets for the WEDU Be More Awards™ luncheon and ceremony are \$50 per person, \$600 for Community Heroes table for 10, or \$1,000 for a Philanthropist table of 10. For more information or to make reservations for the WEDU Be More Awards™ – an inspiring celebration of community goodwill – visit wedu.org/BeMore or call WEDU at (800) 354-9338 ext 2241. The deadline for reservations is Friday, February 3, 2012.

Economic Cost of Illicit Drug Use to Society Tops \$193 Billion

The *2011 National Drug Threat Assessment* released by the U.S. Department of Justice's National Drug Intelligence Center (NDIC) estimates that the economic cost of illicit drug use to society in 2007 was over \$193 billion. This includes direct and indirect public costs related to lost productivity (\$120.3 billion), crime (\$61.4 billion), and health (\$11.4 billion). As the *Assessment* reports, the demand for illicit drugs in the United States is rising, particularly among young people. Overall, illegal drugs are increasingly available, as are controlled prescription drugs. The negative consequences associated with abuse of prescription drugs have also increased substantially. [Read more.](#)

The Latest

SAMHSA Announces a Working Definition of “Recovery” from Mental Health Disorders and Substance Use Disorders

A new working definition of recovery from mental disorders and substance use disorders is being announced by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The definition is the product of a year-long effort by SAMHSA and a wide range of partners in the behavioral health care community and other fields to develop a working definition of recovery that captures the essential, common experiences of those recovering from mental disorders and substance use disorders, along with major guiding principles that support the recovery definition. SAMHSA led this effort as part of its Recover Support Strategic Initiative..

The new working definition of Recovery from Mental Disorders and Substance Use Disorders is as follows:

A process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential.

“Over the years it has become increasingly apparent that a practical, comprehensive working definition of recovery would enable policy makers, providers, and others to better design, deliver, and measure integrated and holistic services to those in need,” said SAMHSA Administrator Pamela S. Hyde. "By working with all elements of the behavioral health community and others to develop this definition, I believe SAMHSA has achieved a significant milestone in promoting greater public awareness and appreciation for the importance of recovery, and widespread support for the services that can make it a reality for millions of Americans.”

A major step in addressing this need occurred in August 2010 when SAMHSA convened a meeting of behavioral health leaders, consisting of mental health consumers and individuals in addiction recovery. Together these members of the behavioral health care community developed a draft definition and principles of recovery to reflect common elements of the recovery experience for those with mental disorders and/or substance use disorders.

In the months that have followed, SAMHSA worked with the behavioral health care community and other interested parties in reviewing drafts of the working recovery definition and principles with stakeholders at meetings, conferences

and other venues. In August 2011, SAMHSA posted the working definition and principles that resulted from this process on the [SAMHSA blog](#) and invited comments from the public via SAMHSA Feedback Forums. The blog post received 259 comments, and the forums had over 1000 participants, nearly 500 ideas, and over 1,200 comments on the ideas. Many of the comments received have been incorporated into the current working definition and principles.

Through the Recovery Support Strategic Initiative, SAMHSA has also delineated four major dimensions that support a life in recovery:

- **Health:** overcoming or managing one's disease(s) as well as living in a physically and emotionally healthy way;
- **Home:** a stable and safe place to live;
- **Purpose:** meaningful daily activities, such as a job, school, volunteerism, family caretaking, or creative endeavors, and the independence, income and resources to participate in society; and
- **Community:** relationships and social networks that provide support, friendship, love, and hope.

Guiding Principles of Recovery

Recovery emerges from hope: The belief that recovery is real provides the essential and motivating message of a better future – that people can and do overcome the internal and external challenges, barriers, and obstacles that confront them.

Recovery is person-driven: Self-determination and self-direction are the foundations for recovery as individuals define their own life goals and design their unique path(s).

Recovery occurs via many pathways: Individuals are unique with distinct needs, strengths, preferences, goals, culture, and backgrounds including trauma experiences that affect and determine their pathway(s) to recovery. Abstinence is the safest approach for those with substance use disorders.

Recovery is holistic: Recovery encompasses an individual's whole life, including mind, body, spirit, and community. The array of services and supports available should be integrated and coordinated.

Recovery is supported by peers and allies: Mutual support and mutual aid groups, including the sharing of experiential knowledge and skills, as well as social learning, play an invaluable role in recovery

Recovery is supported through relationship and social networks: An important factor in the recovery process is the presence and involvement of people who believe in the person's ability to recover; who offer hope, support, and encouragement; and who also suggest strategies and resources for change.

Recovery is culturally-based and influenced: Culture and cultural background in all of its diverse representations including values, traditions, and beliefs are keys in determining a person's journey and unique pathway to recovery.

Recovery is supported by addressing trauma: Services and supports should be trauma-informed to foster safety (physical and emotional) and trust, as well as promote choice, empowerment, and collaboration.

Recovery involves individual, family, and community strengths and responsibility: Individuals, families, and communities have strengths and resources that serve as a foundation for recovery.

Recovery is based on respect: Community, systems, and societal acceptance and appreciation for people affected by mental health and substance use problems – including protecting their rights and eliminating discrimination – are crucial in achieving recovery.

For further detailed information about the new working recovery definition or the guiding principles of recovery please visit: <http://www.samhsa.gov/recovery/>

The Fix Focuses on “America’s Killer Med Crisis”

For the first time in U.S. history, deaths from prescription drugs outnumber deaths from motor vehicle crashes. Prescription drug overdoses are at fault for nine out of ten drug poisonings as reported by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Opioid analgesics were involved in more than 50% of all drug poisoning deaths in 2008. *The Fix* provides an overview of the latest CDC report and what is being done to manage this growing problem. Xanax, OxyContin and Vicodin are the top three drugs considered most dangerous based on the number of drug-involved emergency room visits reported in 2009.

[Read more. Drug Poisoning Deaths in the United States.](#)

www.BetheWall.org



Be Firm, Be Clear, Be Consistent

Local agencies and businesses wishing to participate in the campaign by displaying images or have question about the campaign should call LiveFree! at 813-503-5658 or email livefree@operpar.org.

BE THE WALL’s statewide social marketing message is sponsored by the Florida Department of Children and Families.

About the Speakers Bureau

Suncoast KKDF and LiveFree! are here to help strengthen individuals, families and communities in the battle against the catastrophic effects of alcohol and other drugs. Our mission is to create safe and drug-free communities by linking youth, young adults, families and neighborhoods to public awareness, advocacy, education and healthy solutions. In partnership with Operation PAR, LiveFree! & Suncoast KKDF are leaders in the field of addictions prevention and treatment.

Experts are available to speak in your community who have extensive experience working with youth, families, young adults and adults. These highly qualified staff also have experience in treating individuals and families dealing with issues of addiction and co-occurring addiction and mental health disorders. Thousands of individuals and families experience a better quality of life after completing these services, delivered with compassion, dignity and respect.

Presentation Topics



- Getting Help From Operation PAR
- Community Indicators -Addiction Trends
- Evidence-Based Practices and Research
- Gender Specific Services
- Building Coping Skills Among Youth
- HIV/AIDS/ Hepatitis & Addiction
- Binge Drinking & Prescription Pills
- Life Skills
- Building Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care
- Understanding Co-Occurring Populations
- Creating Trauma Informed Systems
- Prescription Drug Use Trends
- Strategic Prevention Framework 5 steps in Sustained Coalition Planning
- Building Collaborations and Partnerships
- Results-Oriented Grant Writing and Grants Management

To Schedule a Speakers Bureau presentation e-mail livefree@operpar.org

[Back to top](#)