

February TAP and TEG Enews From Community Intervention (February 2005)

February is a great month to begin thinking about next school year. What went well with your **TAP** and **TEG** programs? What didn't? What didn't you get accomplished that you thought you would? Will you see cuts in your budget? If so, who in your community may be able to help? As you ponder the future of your programs, remember that the Community Intervention staff can serve as a resource to strategize and problem solve. Call us at 800-328-0417, whenever we may be of assistance!

In This Issue...

- * Tobacco Trivia: Did you know?
- * Grant Opportunity to Consider
- * February Question of the Month
- * TAP and TEG Training Dates and Locations

Tobacco Trivia: Did you know?

Smoking During Pregnancy. New research shows that an expectant mother's smoking during pregnancy does not increase the likelihood that her child will later experiment with smoking. However, it doubles the risk that if her child becomes a smoker, the child will become addicted. (NIDA Notes, Volume 19, Number 4)

Smoking Marijuana. Those who have smoked marijuana at least once in the past 30 days, and 100 times or more in their lifetime, have a higher risk of the same respiratory ailments as cigarette smokers, including chronic bronchitis, increased phlegm, shortness of breath, wheezing, and pneumonia. (January 2005, Journal of General Internal Medicine)

Smoking Near Children. Smoking near young children more than triples their risk of getting cancer later in life. (January 28, 2005, British Medical Journal)

Secondhand Smoke and Cervical Cancer. Exposure to secondhand smoke increases the risk of cervical cancer and active smoking increases the risk even more. (January 2005, Obstetrics and Gynecology)

Grant Opportunity to Consider

Recent research published in the February 5, 2005, issue of the *Lancet* medical journal indicates that alcohol kills and disables about as many people as tobacco and high blood pressure. This doesn't mean that you take your eye off the tobacco target, but it indicates that it is wise to consider what local resources are available to address youth alcohol abuse.

To assist with this endeavor, the U.S. Department of Education issued "Grants To Reduce Alcohol Abuse." Due March 28, this grant aims to reduce underage alcohol abuse as outlined by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA). This program is a part of the department's Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities National Program. Approximately 57 discretionary grants will be awarded nationwide, each with an estimated award size between \$300,000 and \$500,000. For more information, click on the link below.

Implementing the intervention program on which **TEG** was based, *Helping Teens Overcome Problems With Alcohol, Marijuana, and Other Drugs (Insight Class Program Curriculum)* would fit within the framework of this grant. Many **TAP** and **TEG** facilitators refer alcohol, marijuana, or other drug users identified in their groups to Insight to provide youth with an opportunity to take a look at their use, the consequences of their use, and make decisions about future use.

On a final note: The Bush administration's fiscal 2006 budget calls for eliminating the \$441 million state grants portion of the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) program. This is even more reason to consider these discretionary funds.

Click here for more details on grant:
<http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/2004/84184a.html>

February Question of the Month

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We know that you give a great deal to the youth with whom you work. Since it is February, let's talk about love: **What do you love about being a TAP or TEG facilitator? What rewards do you get?**

Remember: Your contributions mean a great deal to your fellow **TAP** and **TEG** facilitators. To thank you, the first ten people to reply get 10 **FREE TAP** or **TEG** student workbooks!

In January, we asked, "What experiences have you had with the newspaper, radio, or television to promote **TAP** and **TEG**?" David Ettesvold, St. Paul, Minnesota, arranged for WCCO, a major Twin Cities television network, to follow his **TAP** group. They interviewed four past group members and will film a total of three classes, including the session with a speaker with a laryngectomy and graduation.

Another facilitator, Linda Hans from Maryland, shared the benefits of inviting a county commissioner, who recently had a laryngectomy, to speak to her class. Linda wrote, "He is making a positive difference in the lives he touches. In the past, many of the teens said they did not believe the videos and wanted to see 'real people.' They got their wish with the commissioner and are spellbound every time he speaks."

Judy Johns from Sutter County, California, had a contest for students to write Public Service Announcements (PSAs) to be aired on KUBA radio. The winner read her PSA over the air and it continued to play throughout December 2005 and January 2006.

**TAP and TEG Training Dates and Locations**

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March 14-15 Westminster, MD
March 21-22 Indianapolis, IN
April 25-26 Columbus, OH
May 5-6 Casper, WY
October 27-28 Minneapolis, MN
November 17-18 Riverside, CA

Check the website frequently for the latest dates and locations or call Mary Beth at 800-328-0417.