

PARTS COALITION

Preventing Alcohol Related Trauma
and Substance Abuse

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER: JULY-DECEMBER 2024



DID YOU KNOW?

Research suggests that community partnerships can significantly improve prevention efforts by increasing reach, effectiveness, and sustainability, with studies showing positive impacts on reducing health risks, such as substance abuse.

Prevention Coordinator, Maria Almanza with community partners from Frank Paul Family Resource Center



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INSPIRE & THRIVE: STEPS PROGRAM RETREAT



Photo: STEPS Program County-Wide group photo

(July, 2024) The Safe Teens Empowerment Project (STEPS) held its annual summer program retreat at San Lorenzo Park in King City, California. STEPS Youth Leaders from Salinas, Monterey Peninsula, and South Monterey County came together for a day filled with laughter and enjoyment under the sun. The students began their day with a community clean-up in partnership with Blue Zone's Project Monterey County and as the day went on STEPS engaged in various team-building activities, which included a cooking demonstration with Blue Zone's Project.

The retreat concluded with a heartfelt thank you from Prevention team, who expressed their gratitude for the participation and enthusiasm shown by all the student volunteers throughout this past year. It was a day to remember, filled with learning, laughter, and lasting friendships.

A BIG THANK YOU to all of our STEPS Program volunteers for all the great work you are doing to promote drug-free communities and a special acknowledgement to Blue Zone's Project for joining us!



KNOWLEDGE SAVES LIVES: COLLEGE OUTREACH

(August, 2024) Sun Street Centers' Prevention Department is directing its attention to college students in recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day in August. With drug-related overdoses impacting individuals in our communities, knowing how to respond can be crucial in saving lives! The Prevention team collaborated with Monterey Peninsula College to raise awareness about opioid overdoses and to distribute Naloxone (Narcan), ensuring students have access to this life-saving medication. Naloxone is a crucial medication that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose. It is safe, easy to use, acts quickly, and is not addictive.

By providing education and resources, the initiative aims to empower students with the knowledge and tools necessary to prevent tragic outcomes. This proactive approach not only prepares individuals to act in emergencies but also fosters a healthier, more informed student body.

"Collaborating with MPC for International Overdose Awareness Month was such a great opportunity to reach out to our young adults. We passed out Narcan and Narcan testing strips to students that were on campus as well as other useful information and resources. I am very grateful for the partnership that Sun Street Centers has created with MPC in the last 3 years."

-Katia Lainez Gutierrez, Prevention Program Manager on the Peninsula

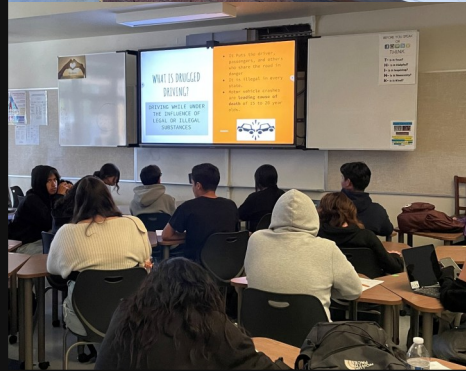


RED RIBBON WEEK: A COMMUNITY EFFORT



(October, 2024) Red Ribbon Week emphasizes the importance of maintaining a drug-free lifestyle. It serves as a chance for parents, educators, and communities to reinforce the drug prevention messages we all hear throughout the year. During this week, individuals of all ages across the nation pledge to enhance their understanding by learning more about the harmful impacts of drug abuse, including the misuse of prescription medications, and reaffirm their dedication to a healthy, drug-free life.

Throughout this campaign, the Prevention Department collaborated with local community organizations and schools to raise awareness about the dangers associated with teen substance use and to encourage healthy behaviors. By engaging in resource fairs and delivering classroom presentations, the team has the opportunity not only to share vital information but also to address any questions that students or adults may have. This campaign aims to equip young people with the tools they need to navigate life's challenges without resorting to substance use.



TOGETHER, WE STAND UNITED FOR RECOVERY!



Photo: STEPS Youth Leader and Prevention Coordinator at Salinas Men's Residential Program

(September, 2024) To honor of National Recovery Month, STEPS Student Youth Leaders from the STEPS Program recently held their quarterly County-Wide Meeting in collaboration with the Salinas Men's Residential Program to host a variety of activities and workshops for the men to engage in, along with their families. The success of the event showcased the incredible impact that can be achieved when communities come together with a shared vision of support, growth, and positive change.

Thank you to local cities for the remarkable support declaring September as National Recovery Month. This served as a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of individuals in recovery, celebrate the invaluable contributions of treatment providers, promote the message that recovery is attainable for all, and pay tribute to the loved ones who have stood by those on their recovery journey.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



BREATHE EASY: KICK THE HABIT TODAY



Photo: PARTS Coalition Members

(November, 2024) The Great American Smokeout (GASO) is an annual initiative organized by the American Cancer Society, taking place on the third Thursday of November. This campaign encourages individuals to either quit smoking on that day or use the day to make a plan to quit, aiming to lower the risks associated with tobacco-related diseases and premature death.

STEPS Student Youth Leaders teamed up with Blue Zones' Project Monterey County to conduct tobacco-litter clean-ups in local communities throughout Monterey County. During these clean-ups, they shared valuable information about the benefits of quitting smoking, as well as the hazards associated with tobacco litter. Their efforts not only helped beautify the community but also raised awareness about the environmental impact of tobacco waste. Through education, collaboration, and determination, the GASO campaign continues to make strides toward a healthier, cleaner future for all.



CELEBRATE SMART: KEEP THE HOLIDAYS SAFE

(December, 2024) With the holiday season in full swing, our prevention efforts are also ramping up. In December, we collaborated with local radio station, KRKC Country Radio, to create public service announcements addressing the dangers of drunk and drugged driving during the festive period. These announcements serve as a vital reminder for our community to make responsible and safe choices if consuming alcohol or drugs.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, there is typically an increase in drunk-driving fatalities during the Christmas and New Year holidays. Consequently, you may notice a greater law enforcement presence on the roads as part of the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign. This initiative, running from December 11 to January 1, aims to raise awareness about the risks of driving under the influence. If you know you will be drinking, arrange for a designated driver, use public transportation, or consider ride-sharing services to ensure you and your loved ones get home safely.



PARTS Coalition Community Board

PARTS COALITION

Want to make a difference? Sun Street PARTS Coalition are looking for new members. New members welcome!

*More info:
call Prevention Department*

SUN STREET CENTERS PREVENTION SERVICES:

- Life-Skills Training**
(Parents and Youth)
- Gateway Drug Presentation**
(Parents and Youth)
- Substance Use and Bullying Presentation**
(Parents and Youth)

*More info:
call Prevention Department*

STEPS YOUTH PROGRAM

Drug and alcohol prevention program for teens 14-18 years old
(Salinas, Seaside and South County)

*More info:
Call Prevention Department*

TAKE DOWN TOBACCO

April 1, 2025

Take Down Tobacco is the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids' signature platform for empowering young people to fight Big Tobacco. Alongside a movement of elected leaders, parents, teachers, healthcare providers and advocates, we ensure young people have a seat at the table as we work together toward a tobacco-free generation.

www.takedowntobacco.org

Pink Shirt Day Community Celebration 2025

Let's stand up, speak out, and take a stand against bullying! Join us Friday, February 28, 2025 at Northridge Mall to celebrate kindness as a community. The celebration will feature activities, community resources, music & more!

4:00pm-7:00pm

Jorge Rubio

jrubio@sunstreet.org

831-998-2000

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and products

Sun Street Centers
Prevention Department

Salinas:
(831) 753-5150

Peninsula:
(831) 401-5505

South County:
(831) 401-5252

Visit us on the web at
www.SunStreetCenters.org

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**William McCaskey Chapman & Adaline Dinsmore
Chapman Foundation**

MONTEREY COUNTY GIVES!

PARTS Coalition Mission

Our mission is to prevent alcohol-related injuries and fatalities, prevent youth access to alcohol and drugs and the initiated use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in Monterey County.