

JTAC Newsletter



15 Minute Child Break

15-MINUTE CHILD BREAKS

During the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever to communicate with the youth in our lives and JTAC is continuing to work on empowering and assisting parents, grandparents and caregivers in having tough conversations. JTAC recently sponsored two 15-Minute Child Break parent workshops on July 30th at 7 pm and August 5th at 2pm to help parents and/or caregivers become more knowledgeable and be better equipped to have these important conversations. A recorded version of the workshop will be provided to the coalition to share with the community after Labor Day.



SCHOOL RESILIENCY TRAININGS

JTAC cosponsored two 3-day trainings to educators to help build resiliency teams in their schools. These trainings are normally offered in-person to school staff and administrators in Atlantic County but since changing them to a virtual platform, we were able to offer these trainings to any interested school staff. There were participants from all over, including Australia and India. The trainings were offered July 13th, 14th and 15th and again on July 20th, 21st and 22nd. Presenters Dr. Lori Desautels and Michael McKnight focus on helping to create school-level resiliency teams to help educators work with youth who suffer toxic levels of stress. The resiliency teams are designed to create turnkey training in schools and move schools toward becoming trauma responsive. Dr. Lori and Michael both have extensive backgrounds in the education field and have published several books together. The trainings are very informative and help educators better understand brain states of youth and finding ways to implement policies and practices in schools to better serve everyone.

JTAC also cosponsored a session hosted by Dr. Lori and Michael about building resiliency in our youngest students. This was offered on July 16th to teachers and staff working with Pre-K—Elementary grades. With the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever to acknowledge the stress levels of children and focus on how we can help them deal with toxic stress.

CADCA'S MID-YEAR TRAINING

The 19th Annual CADCA Mid-Year Training Institute – Prevention, Progress, Possibilities was held virtually July 26th through July 30th and JTAC was able to provide scholarships for some of its members to attend. This conference included more than 85 sophisticated training sessions and workshops which were led by experts in the prevention field, coalitions from around the globe and federal agency partners. On-demand recordings were made available to allow attendees 24/7 access and the ability to listen into and experience every single training session that was offered.



WE CHECK FOR 21 TRAININGS



JTAC held a We Check for 21 training which was moved to a video format due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The video format allowed us to still educate individuals on how to help reduce access of alcohol to underage persons and was available to view from June 18th to July 31st on JTAC's YouTube channel. The link for the video was shared with liquor licensed establishments in Atlantic and Cape May Counties and posted on JTAC's website and Facebook page. The training was for all licensed beverage establishment staff and was conducted by Joseph Vasil, director of Fraud Training Services of Vasil ID Training LLC. Mr. Vasil and Atlantic Prevention Resources developed the video as an alternative to in-person training to adhere with social distancing guidelines. The training included credentials for different states and focused on the latest trends in counterfeit driver licenses.

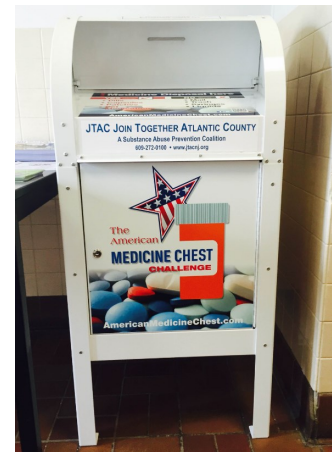
ELIMINATE TOBACCO USE NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Eliminate Tobacco Use National Conference was held virtually on July 17th and 18th, 38 states participated and 645 people attended the event. Part of the event focused on helping create tobacco-free cultures on college and university campuses through policy, prevention and cessation. There was a variety of information and resources shared about tobacco-free campus policy adoption and implementation, technical assistance, prevention health communication tools, guidelines, and cessation services. The initiative aims to drive down the use of tobacco on campuses and create tobacco-free college campuses nationwide.

SUMMER OUTREACH

JTAC held its annual summer pharmacy outreach. Beginning in July, members of JTAC visited nearly 55 pharmacies in Atlantic County and distributed materials such as informational rack cards, magnets, stickers and posters that provide information about proper medication disposal. In addition, we are offering free Deterra drug deactivation disposal bags and offering to purchase a limited number of permanent prescription disposal drop boxes for interested pharmacies. We want to make sure that pharmacies in Atlantic County know about the resources that are available and how we can work together to help educate the community about the importance and safety of disposing of medications properly.

JTAC held a similar outreach to veterinarian offices and hospice providers over the past few weeks. Any county resident that is interested in Deterra drug deactivation bags, a free locking medicine cabinet or where to dispose of medications properly should visit our website at jtacnj.org or call 609-272-0101, ext. 22 for more information.



NJPN 2020 VISION: FOCUS ON ADDICTION CONFERENCE

NJPN held their 20th Annual Addiction Conference, 2020 Vision: Focus on Addiction on June 18th. This event was moved to a virtual platform and as in the past years, the conference was used to educate prevention and treatment professionals about critical issues surrounding substance misuse while providing a unique forum for networking, collaboration and workforce development. During the conference, professional workshops, networking, and other opportunities were provided for sponsors and exhibitors to share valuable resources and information with those working in the field of addiction. While the in-person interaction was missed, the virtual platform was laid out extremely well and still provided a great opportunity for education and networking for all attendees. Recordings of the workshops are available for future viewings for all registrants.

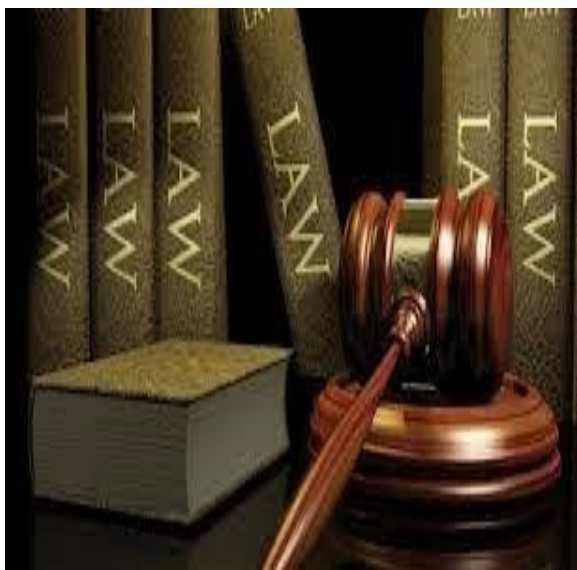


JTAC WEBSITE

We are encouraging everyone to view our website at www.jtacnj.org. We have recently made some changes and have updated the site to include information and resources for parents and teens as well as the LGBTQ+ and faith based communities. We will continue to update the site with the latest information available and all of our current events will be posted there as well.

TIPS Trainings

We are in the planning stages of offering virtual On-Premise TIPS trainings to restaurants and bars in Atlantic County. The TIPS program is designed to teach restaurant/bar employees how to prevent intoxication, drunk driving and underage drinking and help empower them to take proactive approaches towards preventing alcohol misuse and maintaining control of their environment. Participants will learn to better recognize the signs of intoxication to help reduce the chance of an alcohol-related incident and they will be tested on the material in order to become TIPS certified. We will be offering two sessions, one in the morning and one in the evening to accommodate different schedules. Once we have chosen dates and times, we will provide that information via email, Facebook and also on JTAC's website.



Ordinance Mailing

We are currently working on a mailing to go out to all municipalities in Atlantic County on different ordinances that can be enacted that relate to prevention strategies. We will be sending all police chiefs and city/town council members examples of different ordinances that can be passed in their municipality. This mailing includes ordinances relating to nuisance abatement (rowdy house), private property, alcohol guidelines for community events, 100% proofing, hotel/motel policies, mandatory residential locking medicine cabinets and content neutral advertising. Some municipalities may have implemented similar ordinances but we are looking to assist the ones who have not and share additional opportunities as well.



SAM

Smart
Approaches to
Marijuana

preventing another big tobacco

Marijuana News/Happenings

On Tuesday, August 11th from 9-10 a.m. JTAC hosted a very successful radio town hall, "Marijuana In Our Community Today". This town hall was live on WPG Talk Radio 1450 on the Hurley in the Morning talk show and was moderated by Harry Hurley and Bob Zlotnick from Atlantic Prevention Resources (APR). The speakers were Diane Litterer from the New Jersey Prevention Network and Will Jones, III from Smart Approaches to Marijuana (SAM). A pod cast of the entire show is available on our website at <http://www.jtacnj.org/news.html>

SAM created a video titled SmokeScreen which can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/OKMMcritHb0>. This video addresses many misconceptions surrounding marijuana and helps shine a different light on legalization of the drug. Check out the SAM website at www.learnaboutsam.org to keep up to date with the latest marijuana news.

CADCA has a new publication called Practical Theorist 12 – Cannabis, The Current State of Affairs which gives a lot of facts and statistics surrounding marijuana and it's legalization throughout the United States. This publication can be downloaded at <https://www.cadca.org/news/new-practical-theorist-available> and/or request a printed copy.

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