
NEWS

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NEW COALITION PREPARES TO “WOW” THE WEST VALLEY

Residents Encouraged to Participate

The Partnership for a Drug-Free America, Arizona Affiliate has come together with west Valley organizations to establish the “Way Out West (WoW) Coalition” and is looking for support from members of the community.

The WoW Coalition has been working over the last six months gathering research and information about substance abuse in Buckeye and the surrounding communities of Verrado and Rainbow Valley. The Arizona Affiliate will bring together people from business, healthcare, law enforcement and education to serve on the coalition. The coalition will carry out a multi-step approach that will formulate a plan to better respond to substance abuse related issues.

“We are excited to begin this process,” said Ed Eddingfield, Rainbow Valley resident and Arizona Affiliate program manager. “Residents who live in the area will now have a voice when it comes to helping and serving the families and youth of the Buckeye area.”

“We are looking forward to this wonderful opportunity,” said John Ray, coalition moderator and Principal at Youngker High School. “Our communities will benefit greatly from the programs implemented by this coalition.”

“We need community input,” said Jennifer Corliss, Verrado resident and program coordinator for Youth Evaluation and Treatment Centers. “Please join us for a meeting to learn more about the coalition and ways that we can work together to help our families raise healthy kids.”

The WOW Coalition currently has 14 members. Anyone who would like to join is encouraged to attend the meetings. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month and the next meeting is June 9th at 11:30am at the Buckeye Chamber of Commerce. Lunch is provided. For more information, please contact Ed Eddingfield Ed.Eddingfield@PartnerUpAz.org or (623)451-7201, or Jennifer Corliss at JCorliss@youthetc.org or (602)384-0861.

About The Partnership for a Drug-Free America

The Partnership for a Drug-Free America is a nonprofit organization uniting parents, renowned scientists and communications professionals to help families raise healthy children. The Partnership motivates and equips parents to prevent their children from using drugs and alcohol, intervene when drug and alcohol use is present and find help for family and friends in trouble. The Partnership's site, drugfree.org, translates current research on teen behavior, addiction and treatment into easy to understand tips and tools and connects parents with expert advice and support. For parents who need help starting and maintaining conversations with their kids about drugs and alcohol, Time To Talk, a nationwide parents' movement, offers empowering tips and tools at TimeToTalk.org. The Partnership depends on donations from individuals, corporations, foundations and government. The Partnership thanks SAG/AFTRA and the advertising and media industries for their ongoing generosity.

The Arizona Affiliate was established in 2003 to carry out The Partnership's mission to reduce illicit drug use in Arizona while meeting the unique needs of communities. Through its programs, the Arizona Affiliate inspires and empowers Arizonans to join in a united effort to prevent illicit drug use among teens through community-based education. The Partnership is a non profit 501-c-3 organization.

For more information, visit the Affiliate website at www.PartnerUpAz.org.