



Youth Community Coalition

Empowering youth to make healthy choices!

March/April 2011

Volume 3, Issue 1

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For More Info:

[Website](#)

News & Research:

[Global Alcohol Database](#)

[Survey on Attitudes towards Substance Abuse](#)

[Boone County Teen Health Assessment](#)

[National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#)

[National Registry of Evidence Based Programs](#)

[Youth Exposure to Alcohol Ads on TV](#)

Five Promises

1. Caring Adults
2. Safe Places
3. Healthy Start
4. Effective Education
5. Opportunities to help others

2011: Off to a Promising Start!

The last three months have been full of good news and growth as a Coalition.

January

Our year began by welcoming a new officer to the YC2 Executive Board. Linda Frost from the Prevention Resource Center was elected to serve as the treasurer. Erin Carrillo, Parks and Rec, who served previously as the youth specialist, was elected as the new Vice-Chairperson. They join Tiffany Bowman, Chairperson, and Caren Bacon, Secretary, in serving on the Executive Board.

February

Even though the snow was falling, YC2 was able to take "A Minute to Win It" and lay out the blueprint for success in our community, coalition, and school campuses. February also marked the launch of a program called "Strengthening Families". This 8 week program is designed to prevent substance abuse in youth and help build family strength. This program was offered to families in partnership with Rainbow House.

March

At the March 7th City Council meeting, YC2 was introduced as the official City commission on youth issues. YC2 now works to advise the City Council on youth issues and give students in Columbia a voice. To respond to this new role and other emerging needs, YC2 launched three new project teams: Adolescent Health, Achievement, and Advocacy. These teams will work to address these specific issues and will report back to the Coalition each month.



Elaina (left) and Chareon (right) as they prepare dinner for children at Coyote Hill as a part of the Teen Outreach Program service learning project.

Columbia is One of the Best!

Last October, Columbia was selected as one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People. This award recognizes the wonderful network of support that exists in Columbia to help youth succeed. While there is still much work to be done, this award shows that Columbia is heading in the right direction. Special thanks to all of the YC2 members that work so hard for youth! Visit www.promiseforyouth.org to learn more.



Recommended Links

[Cool Spot](#)

Fun site with lots of information for teens.

[Boone County Indicators](#)

Wellness indicators for Boone County.

[Family Guide](#)

How to talk to your kids.

[Drugs & Alcohol](#)

Great site for kids and teens!

[Free Vibe](#)

Informational site about drugs and their effects.

[National Clearinghouse for Drug/Alcohol Information](#)

Find free resources about substance abuse and mental health.

April is Alcohol & Child Abuse Awareness Month.



Youth Community
Coalition

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Giving Youth Issues a Voice in the City

Now that YC2 has been selected to serve as the advisory commission to the City Council on youth issues, YC2 formed three project teams to give focus to recently emerging issues. At the March meeting, the teams met together for the first time and came up with purpose statements for each group. Check it out...

Advocacy: *Youth speak out for youth-led change.*

Achievement: *Encourage communication between schools, parents, and community programs about general and specific learning benchmarks to help students successfully meet goals.*

Adolescent Health: *Identify health issues that are pertinent to adolescents and inform teens and others on how to address and access needed programs and services. This team will work to address the "Future Directions" of the Columbia/Boone Co. Adolescent Health Needs Assessment.*

You can learn more about these teams and get involved by emailing [Ryan](#) or attending the next YC2 meeting.

Legislative Updates

YC2 works with our partners at [ACT Missouri](#) to keep up to date on legislation that impacts youth issues in our state.

Currently, there is a bill going through the House of Representatives that is seeking to expand the ban on K2 to include other synthetic substances. You can read more about this bill and others that are going through House and Senate here: <http://www.actmissouri.org/PDF%20Files/BillTrackingReport32811.pdf>



Upcoming events...

Check out www.yc2.org for more information

April 20th 6-8 pm	Family Fun Night: Teen Fest Flatbranch Park
April 21st 3:30-5 pm	YC2 Meeting- "International Perspectives on Alcohol" Blind Boone Community Center
April 28th 5-8:30pm	Caring Adults=Resilient Teens Boone County Health Department
April 29-30th Various times	Boone County Prescription Drug Take Back Various locations in Boone County