

Chesterfield County Youth Development Coalition

August 2014

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The Chesterfield County Youth Development Coalition is a subcommittee of the Chesterfield County Coordinating Council and was established to address risky behaviors among our youth. We are committed to helping our young people develop the proper decision-making skills needed to prevent risky behaviors. We are students, parents, teachers, law enforcement officers, business leaders, state agencies, faith-based organizations, health care organizations and people from all walks of life working together to build a stronger future for our community.

The Youth Development Coalition will meet in the DSS Commons room on the third Tuesday of every month at 3:30pm.

We invite those interested in helping the youth of our community to participate in our meetings. By offering your advice, expertise and suggestions you will help to strengthen the coalition while serving the community.

Upcoming Meetings:

- August 19
- September 16

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Watermelon Festival

During this years Watermelon Festival held in July, the YDC staff and volunteers from the community collected over 300 adult surveys. As you can see, we worked hard and got to meet with some of the local Beauty Pageant Queens from Chesterfield County and the surrounding areas. While the adults filled out surveys, youth got the opportunity to choose from a variety of items as a gift for stopping by the booth. Thanks again to all those



that volunteered and to all those that took the time to stop at the booth and pick up information about the YDC.



Are you and your kids ready for school?

As the new school year approaches most parents are concerned with the long list of items that their children will need for the year. There are items that should be on that list but never seem to make it. These are items that will cost only your time.

What your child can expect when entering school for the first time is very different than when they are making the change to a middle or high school. What you as a parent expect from your children as they progress through school also changes. But most importantly is what your children are exposed to also changes.

Elementary age children are faced with a lot of new people in a larger social environment which can be very scary. You want them to fit in and make friends, but have you discussed how they go about that tall task? Do they understand that they will have to wait for their turn in getting a teachers attention, that they will not be liked by everyone, that some children can be mean or even bully them? Have you talked with them about what to expect from others and how you expect them to behave to the other children and teachers?

For those kids moving up in the school system, there is a difference in how the children interact.

Your kids will be faced with more children that are more mature. They will be exposed to risky behaviors that you may not have even considered talking with your children about. Subjects such as: drugs, drinking, bad language, sexual conduct, and bullying.

It is important that you speak with your kids about what they most likely will be exposed to. Don't assume that they know what you expect. Just because you tell them to behave more maturely and that you expect more from them, doesn't mean that they understand what you are asking of them. Sit down with your children and discuss the differences they will face when moving from elementary school to middle, and middle school to high school. Discuss with them in detail what you expect from them, set the rules and the consequences for breaking the rules. Don't let them guess what it is you want.

Just as the school informs the children of what they expect it is important that as parents we also let them know how we want them to behave and what is and isn't acceptable behavior.

For more information on speaking with your children, or on any of the subjects listed above please contact the Chesterfield County Youth Development Coalition at 843-623-5265 or e-mail your questions to srmydc@shtc.net.

Family Day—Dinner Makes a Difference

September 22, 2014 marks the 14th annual Family Day and the fourth year that the Chesterfield County Youth Development Coalition has participated in this national event.

This year, the Chesterfield County Youth Development Coalition will once again join with local area restaurants and the Chesterfield County Libraries to celebrate National Family Day. The YDC has updated the placemats that will be given out to families and organizations. The placemats are designed to use for your family dinner with fun things for the kids to do and conversation topics for you and your teen. We have included a drawing for a \$50 gift card. Just pick up a placemat and follow the instructions.

Whether you're cooking a gourmet meal, ordering food from your favorite take-out place or eating on the go, rest assured that what your kids really want during dinnertime is **YOU!** Family meals are the perfect time to talk to your kids and to listen to what's on their mind. The more often kids eat dinner with their families; the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs.

Become a Star Family by visiting the Family

Day website at <http://casafamilyday.org/familyday/about-family-day/>, and commit to: **Spend**

time with my kids by having dinner together, **Talk** to them about their friends, interests and the dangers of drugs and alcohol, **Answer** their questions and listen to what they say, **Recognize** that you have the power to help keep your kids substance free!

Family Day placemats will available at the following locations 1 week prior to Family Day: *Chesterfield County Libraries*, *Wendy's in Chesterfield and Pageland*, *Burger King in pageland*, *Fatz Café-Cheraw*, *Moores-Chesterfield*, *Pig N Vittles-Chesterfield and Pageland*, *Nanas Kitchen-Chesterfield*, *Subway –McBee*, *Beth's Country Kitchen-Cheraw*, and *Sonic-Cheraw*.

Look for more locations to be added in the next newsletter. If you would like to have placemats for an event you are holding or to get more information contact Stacey Mosier at 623-5265 or at srmydc@shtc.net.



Do your kids vape?

So, do your kids vape? Vaping is the use of e-cigarettes and is one of the trends seen here in SC with youth. There isn't the hot, bitter smell of tobacco any longer, now it is a vapor cloud that wafts above a vaper (someone who uses e-cigarettes) with a faint scent of grape flavored bubble gum, or the hundreds other scents available that hangs in the air. Vapers claim that e-cigarettes mimic the exact feel of what is called a throat hit and the visual of smoking a cigarette.

With the availability of e-cigarettes at local stores and gas stations how easy is it for them to get and what are the regulations? Currently, in South Carolina there are no laws requiring a safety standard or protection against minors purchasing e-cigarettes. There is no federal legislation or regulation about e-Cigarettes and the US Food and Drug Administration

(FDA) has no recommendation about e-cigarettes. The FDA has stated that more research and data is needed. However, there are on-going efforts to create more industry safety standards.

Because e-cigarettes do not contain tobacco and are not considered medicinal like nicotine patches or gum, there is little regulation within the e-cigarette industry. Without these industry standards the chemical make-up of vapor products vary and other chemicals can be included. Regular cigarettes can have over 4000 chemicals in them, but most vapors have various combinations of the following: nicotine, propylene glycol, vegetable glycerin, the preservatives BHA and BHT, chemicals that create the taste of caramelized sugar, scents and your food grade flavoring. Among the safety concerns about the battery-powered devices that turn nicotine-laced liquid into a vapor that users inhale, is that nicotine (derived from tobacco leaves) is addictive and in its purest form is poisonous. This may lead users to try other tobacco

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Free, Free, Free.....

****Preschool Program for children 3-5 years old.***

****All children must be 3 years old by September 1.***

Includes:

School Readiness Program

Nutritious Meals

Transportation

Health Services

Preschool Education

Disability / Special Services

Parent Involvement

Case Management

Contact: Ernestine Melton for more Information at 843-320-2140 or 1-888-299-2799 ext. 2139

Head Start

Registration 2014-2015

Register at Chesterfield-Marlboro EOC

318-322 Front St. Cheraw, SC 29520





Chesterfield County Youth Development Coalition



CHESTERFIELD COUNTY, SC
COORDINATING
COUNCIL

Mission

A coalition of citizens and organizations working together to change community attitudes by providing support, assistance and guidance needed to prevent risky behaviors among all youth in Chesterfield County.

Vision

To create a healthy environment in order for our youth to become productive citizens

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◆ UWCC is now accepting applications for funding. Programs must serve residents of Chesterfield County. Only programs that fit the focus areas of health and safety and youth development will be funded. The deadline for applications is August 29, 2014. No grants are given to individuals. To obtain an application form contact the UWCC office at 843-623-5274 or ccccmapm@shtc.net.

◆ UWCC is a registered charity on Amazon Smile. **When shopping for items**

you cannot find in Chesterfield County, please remember to use smile.amazon.com, and select United Way of Chesterfield County so that 0.5% of your purchase price is donated to United Way of Chesterfield County.

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to e-cigarette television ads increased by 256% from 2011 to 2013 for youth between the ages of 12 and 17 years, and

products.

So the question remains: are e-cigarettes a safe alternative to smoking? The answer to the question is, no one knows for sure how safe these e-cigarettes are.

So why are e-Cigarettes so popular? There are a number of different opinions on the subject. E-cigarettes are not the same as when they first came on the market. The designs are sleeker, brighter and they don't look like a cigarette. The cost has steadily decreased. The number of vapor products available has increased dramatically to include tastes and scents that seem to attract youth. Social media sites that promote the use of e-cigarettes and how cool you can look doing it has not helped. But the biggest push has been the e-Cigarette companies themselves. They have substantially increased their advertising to a broad television-viewing audience. The results are an incredibly dramatic jump in exposure of its products to both teens and young adults.

A study of Nielsen records showed that exposure

increased by 321% for those between the ages of 18 and 24 years. In addition, these ads appeared on programs ranked among the 100 highest rated for youth during the 2012-2013 season.

So have the rates of cigarette smoking gone down for our youth? From the 2010 and 2014 Chesterfield County SC CTC (Communities That Care) youth survey of students in grades 9-12 the results are as follows: 16.75% in 2010 and 14.9% in 2014 had smoked tobacco in the past 30 days; 9.76% in 2010 and 13.9% in 2014 had used a smokeless tobacco product in the past 30 days. Although there was a 1.85% decrease in smoked tobacco products over a 4 year period, there was 4.4% increase in the use of smokeless tobacco products.

It is still up for debate whether there will be long term affects. As a parent myself I just don't want my kids putting anything in their bodies that does not sustain them. For more information call the YDC office at 623-5265.