

# Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District

Update to Heroin Task Force  
February 27, 2013

*Implement educational programs beginning with 6<sup>th</sup> grade students through high school youth*

- Implemented activity-based lunch hour and minimum day programs at Hillside and Sinaloa Middle Schools.
- Working with the Oak Park Unified School District to place a portable building on their middle school campus.
- Age-specific programming being added to help reach this age group. If successful, the Park District will explore the possible expansion of it in Simi Valley.

## *Employ media targeted to youth*

- Continue to update web site and seasonal activity brochure with programs, information, resources, and the contact information for other organizations.
- Added a Community Resources section Reporter
- Using Facebook page for teens, and programs and activities for this age group are regularly posted upon it.

## *Provide drug and alcohol awareness classes for parents and kids*

- Added additional activities in the Winter/Spring 2013 Reporter, including “*Positive Support for Parents*”, “*Parenting is a Tough Job*”, and *Mental Health First Aid USA*. Attendance is offered for these activities at no charge. The Mental Health Training class originated from the Community Coalition United (CCU). The training is provided by Ventura County staff. This class has proved to be very popular, receiving news coverage. The classes offered have filled to capacity. The next available class is scheduled for February 26/27, and a March 13/14 class has also been added due to its popularity. The same slate of activities will be offered in the Spring/Summer Reporter.

## *Disseminate information to the public on intervention/treatment programs*

- Included an informational piece on heroin and drugs in Fall 2012 Reporter. A slightly modified version of that piece will be placed into the next editions of the Reporter and also the District's Oak Park Recreation and Park News brochure.
- Web site continues to be developed. Message expanded from Heroin to "*Drugs Destroy*".
- Activity programming now includes free parenting courses and seminars offered by Interface Triple P. Those courses are offered monthly on Jan. 24, Feb. 28 and march 28 at no charge.

## *Promote positive activities for youth*

- Continuing to provide healthy activities and volunteer and employment opportunities to all ages of the community.
- Worked with the Simi Valley Police Department to allow community service hours to be performed for kids going through the Juvenile Diversion program.
- Continued its attempts to reach the teen population by offering interest specific special events.

*Continue attempts to educate public via written materials and social media*

- Included a drug awareness and education article in its Fall 2012 Reporter.
- Continue to update web site with upcoming events, information, and related website links (upcoming events/flyers)
- Host meetings of the Community Coalition United, an active group of individuals, businesses and agencies working together to provide much needed support of all kinds to those in need.

*Continue to develop web site information regarding drugs and alcohol abuse*

- Continue to develop web site which also includes links to the City of Simi Valley the Simi Valley Unified School District and other important resources that are available to the community.



*Develop list of rehabilitation centers,  
post on website*

- The Park District's web site and activity brochures now include contact information for service providers.

*Request local news outlets to run articles on the subject of alcohol and drug abuse every four months*

- Participated in the development of the Community Anti-drug Forum held at the Boys and Girls Club, and contributed towards the advertisement of this event.
- Worked with other parties to assist with press coverage of the various events and activities.

## *Educate service providers on available resources*

- The Park District together with the City of Simi Valley held another Meet and Greet on January 23, 2013, at the Rancho Santa Susana Community Center. This event brought together representatives from over 50 organizations and allowed each of them to become more familiar with the services available to the community, and explore ways in which resources can be shared. An open to the public event is contemplated in fall.

## *Issue Public Service Announcements, i.e. bus shelters*

- The professionally created PSA prepared by the City of Santa Clara is now linked on the Park District and other agency's web sites.

*Coordinate with religious institutions to meet, develop ideas and collaborate on solutions*

- Staff has engaged in several discussions with religious leaders, which clearly demonstrates that all parties are interested in reaching more people with anti-drug message, all agree that working together can accomplish more, and all agree that more can be done.

## *Coordinate regional efforts*

- The Park District can participate in this.

## *Hold community forums targeted to parents*

- Participated with the development of the Anti Drug Community Forum held by the City of Simi Valley Police Department on September 27, 2012.

*Place articles discouraging drug use and indicating where and how to get help*

- As stated above, the Park District continues to do this.



## *Identify resources for parents and youth*

- As stated above, the Park District continues to do this.

*Involve businesses by placing posters at their locations that advise people about the places to go and people to talk to*

- The Park District can participate in this.

*Develop a survey to ask the community: are they aware of drug use, the age of the user, do they reside in Simi Valley, do they know what to look for, do they know where to get help; do they have recommendations, etc*

- The Park District can participate in this.

*Make sure parents see the details of events – death, arrests, etc.*

- The Park District would be willing to participate in this if appropriate.

## *Education on the dangers of pill usage*

- As stated above, the Park District continues to do this.

*Build peer pressure to keep students off drugs and tobacco*

- The Park District can participate in this.

*Additional treatment options through our local hospitals (e.g. Narcan/Naloxone which prevents or reverses the effects of opiodes)*

- The Park District researched Narcan and evaluated the policies and practices of adjacent police agencies, and concluded that Narcan is best administered by emergency health care professionals.

Questions/Suggestions?