

SARASOTA COALITION ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE NEWSLETTER

REVIEW

Month in



701 McIntosh Road
Sarasota, FL 34232

Tel: (941)377-7736

Fax: (941)296-7301

Email: info@scosa.org

www.SCoSA.org

SARG Update

SCoSA is excited to have completed its 2nd draft of our state SARG (Substance Abuse Response Guide) initiative which is focused on underage alcohol consumption. The Logic Model and Plan were submitted to our SARG Coach, Susan Woodford, on May 20th and Susan indicated both the revised Model and Plan looked good and she has forwarded it to the state contact with DCF for approval. Our Coalition is comprised of community stakeholders that represent the 12 sectors of the community recommended by the State of Florida DCF as well as CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America). The 12 sectors are:

1. Youth
2. Parents
3. Business Community
4. Media
5. School District / Schools
6. Youth-serving organizations
7. Law enforcement
8. Religious or fraternal organizations
9. Civic and volunteer groups
10. Healthcare professionals
11. State, local, and/or tribal government agencies with expertise in the field of substance abuse (including, if applicable, the state agency with primary authority for addressing substance abuse)
12. Other organizations involved in reducing substance abuse

The draft plan which was submitted was based on data collected by our resource and assessment team consisting of:

- Sherri T. Reynolds, SC School Board
- Lt. Tim Enos, Sheriff's Office
- Hon. Charles Roberts, Judicial Circuit
- Liz Bumpus, SC Health Department
- Curt Lavarello, Exec. Director, SCoSA
- Lisa Maier, Hanley Center

The data collected indicated higher than normal rates of suspension/expulsions from school for substance abuse/alcohol violations as well as higher rates of arrests from two zip codes (North Port and City of Sarasota's Newtown Area). The report also identified several community-wide gaps, with a predominate gap being the reduction of funding/programs that address underage consumption, reduction in youth prevention programs (DARE) and the loss of law enforcement officers that conduct underage alcohol sting operations.

If any member of the community wishes to contribute to the SARG process, please feel free to contact our office at (941) 377-7736.



Fcpr.fsu.edu/sarg

SCoSA and Clear Channel to Partner on NEW Public Service Announcement Challenge

As we head back to school this fall, look for a new and exciting initiative between your Coalition and local Clear Channel Radio. Together we are hosting a *radio challenge* open to Middle and High School students. The idea is to create a public service commercial addressing underage

alcohol consumption. Submissions will be judged by both radio executives and SCoSA. The winning team will receive star treatment, "American Idol Style". The PSA will air the month of April, 2010 which coincides with Alcohol Awareness Month.

Board of Directors

Sherri T. Reynolds, Chair
Sarasota County School Board

Lt. Tim Enos, Vice-Chair
Sarasota County Sheriff's Office

George Flack, Treasurer
Cabinet Solutions, Inc.

Liz Bumpus, Secretary
Sarasota County Health Department

Tom Randle, Past-Chair
Sarasota Coastal Credit Union

Curtis S. Lavarello
SCoSA, Executive Director

Rose Chapman
Jewish Family & Children's Services

Honorable Charles Roberts
Judge, 12th Judicial Circuit

Charles Brown
Gold Coast Eagle Distributing

Lisa Maier
Hanley Center

Scott Dennis
ABC 7

Honorable Larry Eger
Public Defender, 12th Judicial Circuit

Our Mission:

To promote substance abuse free environments through increased community awareness and advocacy.

PROJECT AIM (Alcohol Impairment Measure) “AIMing to reduce DUI’s in Sarasota County”

As part of our efforts to see the number of DUI arrests reduced in Sarasota County, the Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse has introduced Project AIM. Project AIM is designed to educate local businesses that sell or serve alcohol as to the serious impact of both underage alcohol consumption and over serving consumers at their establishments.

The curriculum, which was designed in partnership with the Sarasota County Sheriff’s Office, Jewish Family & Children’s Service of Sarasota-Manatee and First Step of Sarasota is offered free of charge to any business in Sarasota County and addresses a number of topics such as the recognition of underage consumers, strategies to address over consumption, state Dram Shop law and civil liability and the mixing of alcohol with other drugs. To date, several Sarasota County establishments have received the training, including:

- Bacalao’s Restaurant
- Mattison’s 41
- Mattison’s City Grille
- Bent Tree Country Club
- Whole Foods Market
- Sam Snead’s Tavern

“While we applaud the efforts of our local law enforcement agencies in combating DUI arrests, we hope to use education as a means to reduce the number of local residents who make the decision to climb behind the wheel of their vehicle after consuming alcohol” states Curt Lavarello, SCoSA Executive Director. The AIM curriculum meets the requirements as outlined by the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco’s Responsible Vendor Qualifications Check List. Liquor liability insurance premiums may be discounted for businesses who implement a Responsible Vendor Training program.

Training takes approximately one hour held on location at a time that is convenient for the participant. Businesses interested in scheduling a training session may download a registration form from our website or may call our office.

“...we hope to use education as a means to reduce the number of local residents who make the decision to climb behind the wheel of their vehicle after consuming alcohol”

Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse, Inc. [SCoSA] is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization that advocates for substance abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment through collaborative efforts. Since its inception in 1999, SCoSA has played a vital role in reducing substance abuse and its destructive impact in Sarasota County.

Are you interested in taking a real step in making our community a Substance Abuse Free Environment?

Please complete this form and mail it with your membership dues and/or contribution to:

Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse, 701 McIntosh Road, Sarasota, Florida 34232

Type of Membership: Individual [\$25] Not for Profit Organization [\$100]
 Family [\$50] For Profit Organization [\$150]

Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Telephone:** _____

Email: _____

Staff / Support

Curtis S. Lavarello
Executive Director
Curt@scosa.org

Amy L. Samsal
Outreach Prevention Coordinator
Amy@scosa.org

Hilary Woodcum
Outreach Prevention Coordinator
Hilary@scosa.org

Carol Sikora
Administrative Assistant
Carol@scosa.org

Would you like to receive our monthly newsletter?

Email Carol at:

Carol@scosa.org

For a list of substance abuse treatment and intervention resources, visit our community resources page at:

www.scosa.org



**701 McIntosh Road
Sarasota, FL 34232**

Tel.: (941)377-7736

Fax: (941)296-7301

Email: info@scosa.org

www.SCoSA.org