

# IT'S WORTH IT.

- **CADCA Mid-Year Training:** After reviewing DAY's budget, it was determined that one adult and two youth members will be able to attend CADCA's Mid-Year Training Institute, which will be held in August 2 - 6 in Indianapolis, IN. It was also decided that new youth members should be encouraged to attend, specifically those who have not yet attended a CADCA Conference. DAY Co-Chair Lisa Ott is actively working on pinning down the three members before the June 15<sup>th</sup> Early Bird special is over.
- **Prevention Coordinator:** Prevention Coordinator Dana Pelliccio will be resigning on June 16<sup>th</sup> and is actively working with Project Supervisor Karol Regan to identify what will need to be done while DAY is searching for a new coordinator. Grant reporting, organizing coalition meetings, and maintaining membership lists are examples of administrative tasks that will need to be accomplished until a new coordinator is hired.
- **Sustainability:** Lisa Ott is working on setting up a sustainability meeting which will focus on identifying who will be on the Sustainability Committee and action steps for sustaining the coalition's efforts if DAY is not immediately refunded for Year 6. The committee will also work on creating a presentation to key community members to help them understand the importance of sustaining DAY's work.
- **LEAD:** The Annual LEAD (Leadership Encourages Asset Development) conference will be held on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. The conference will be a collaborative conversation and learning experience for incoming 9-12 graders from multiple communities in Connecticut. Seven Guilford High School students/DAY youth members will attend. In addition, DAY adult members Lisa Ott, David Ott, Peter Palumbo, and Bo Huhn have volunteered to be advisors.
- **June 16<sup>th</sup> Celebration/Farewell:** A beach get together is planned for June 16<sup>th</sup> to celebrate DAY's immensely successful year and to bid farewell to Prevention Coordinator Dana Pelliccio, as well as Simone Powell and Robin Callahan of the Connection, who will no longer be active with DAY due to funding termination.
- **Sarah Verasco/First Church Collaboration:** Danielle and Peter Ott met with Sarah Verasco of First Church to brainstorm ways the church can help prevent youth substance use and address the stress our kids feel. Together, they came up with the idea of putting older and younger youth together in advisory groups for some sort of a peer mentoring arrangement. Older youth would serve as supports for the younger youth, and help reassure them in times of distress. In addition, it was decided that Advisory Group teachers may also appreciate an additional adult in their group to help with emotionally charged discussions.
- **Collaboration with WFLC – David Fitzpatrick:** The Women and Family Life Center is

interested in collaborating with DAY on speaking about bullying and mental illness. Lisa Ott will be on communication with WFLC to see how DAY can be a part of this presentation.

### **Action Committees:**

#### **Community Values Youth/AC1 -**

The Battle of the Bands Early Dismissal DAY will was held on May 27<sup>th</sup> on the Guilford Green and was a huge success with apprxomatey 100 people in attendance. Youth in grades 7 – 12 competed. As always, the Battle of the Bands was an opportunity to show our youth that they are valued in the Guilford Community. The winner of Battle of the Bands will perform at Parks & Rec's Summer Sizzler at Jacob's Beach on June 13<sup>th</sup> which will have moonbounces, face painting, a taco truck, and temporary tattoos.

#### **Peer & Adult Role Models/AC2 –**

The next Positive Coaching Workshop will be held for GHS Captains in August of 2015.

#### **Family Boundaries/AC3 –**

No activity to report.

**Communications-** It was reiterated that another article topic to consider is the significant stress that Guilford kids feel, which is reflected in DAY's most recent Search Insititute survey data. Specifically, it appears that Guilford kids feel more stress than in previous generations. It was discussed that Guilford's culture focuses more on getting into a competitive college than choosing a lifetime career. It was also expressed that Tammy Lazotte, Director of GHS Guidance, shares this perspective and is passionate about changing this culture. It was agreed to ask Tammy if she would be willing to compose an article on behalf of DAY regarding helping teens focus on their interests versus their college status.