



NEWSLETTER

Boone County Drug Prevention Coalition

A MESSAGE FROM: TJ



I have had the opportunity to work with the BCDPC team for nearly five years. During that time, I've been afforded many unique opportunities like going to CADCA, leading focus groups, speaking to our state representatives, contributing to alcohol and tobacco compliance, and a multitude of other events BCDPC supports. I am a firm believer that our values and habits are largely formed in the beginning years of our lives, which is why I love working with our youth and their families. Helping the community develop good habits and lead healthier lives has been so fulfilling.

As the Roman poet, Publius Vergilius Maro, says, "The greatest wealth is health."

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE WITH THE QR CODE BELOW



RED RIBBON WEEK

Red Ribbon week is a national event focused on educating and spreading awareness about substance abuse among youths. From October 23 to October 31, people will be showing their support with this years theme: 'Be Kind to Your Mind'. Our mental and emotional wellbeing is just as important as our physical health. Keep on the lookout for local events happening during that week, and show support for Red Ribbon Week by wearing red! For more information, check out <https://www.redribbon.org/>



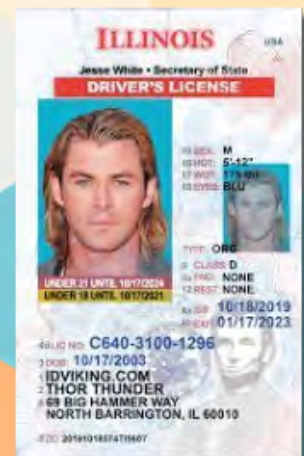
ALCOHOL COMPLIANCE

On August 17th, 2023, the BCDPC, in conjunction with the Illinois State Police, Zone 2 Investigations Rockford, the Boone County Health Department, Belvidere Police Department and the Boone County Sheriff's Department, conducted alcohol compliance checks on 27 on-premise retail businesses. Out of those 27, 12 of the businesses were not compliant and sold to an underage youth. One of the biggest factors when determining if a customer is underage is their ID. Retailers or businesses selling alcohol should always ask for an ID; appearances can be deceiving. Youth under 21 have a distinctly different drivers license than someone that is 21 and older-their ID is vertical, not horizontal. Furthermore, the date that they do turn 21 is printed under their picture. For updated information about Illinois liquor laws, visit <https://ilcc.illinois.gov/education.html>

COMPARE & CONTRAST: HOW MANY DIFFERENCES CAN YOU SPOT?



OVER 21



UNDER 21

COALITION UPDATES

DARIN LAHOOD MEETING

The BCDPC recently met with United States Congressman Darin LaHood, who currently represents the constituents of the 16th Congressional District of Illinois. Congressman LaHood also serves on the The Ways and Means Committee—the House’s oldest committee and has jurisdiction over all taxation and other revenue-raising measures, trade and tariffs, healthcare, and Social Security. Members of the BCDPC met with Congressman LaHood to introduce the coalition and our mission, and educated Congressman LaHood on issues like substance abuse among youth. Congressman LaHood was very interested in hearing about the coalitions past accomplishments, like Drug Disposal bins, compliance checks and the vape ordinance. The coalition also discussed future goals in conjunction with LaHood, particularly concerning sustainability, letters of support, and representing the coalition.

DRUG FREE COMMUNITIES GRANT AWARDED

The BCDPC is proud to announce that they were awarded a competing continuation of the Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Grant! This grant is awarded to local coalitions in hopes of establishing and strengthening collaboration among communities, and thereby reducing substance use in youths. The DFC hopes that by allowing communities to address their specific needs at a local level, various sectors can come together for a common goal: reduce youth substance use. With the DFC Grant, the BCDPC can continue on with improving the quality of life for all in Boone County. The competing continuation of the DFC grant awards the BCDPC \$125,000 annually until 2028. Each additional year requires a larger cost-match in order for the BCDPC to reach full sustainability.



YOUTH COUNCIL UPDATES WE’VE REBRANDED!

In collaboration with the BCDPC and a Chapter of the Illinois Human Performance Project (ILHPP), the Youth Leadership Council has rebranded as PALS– Prevention, Advocacy, Leadership and Strategies. The ILHPP was created by John Underwood, a performance researcher and Olympic trainer; their program mission centers around promoting healthy choices and developing leadership skills in youth. With this in mind, our focuses have expanded to not only include substance abuse prevention, but nutrition, sleep, mood & mindset, and chemical health. To view the full meeting calendar, visit <https://www.bcdpc.org/youth-1>



HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

- ✔ Register and become a member at bcdpc.org or ask a current member how to get involved.
- ✔ Attend monthly meetings held the 2nd Thursday of every month at local high schools. (locations change monthly)
- ✔ Volunteer during our events.
- ✔ Send us your feedback and suggestions.



COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK

WE INVITE COMMENTS, FEEDBACK OR SUGGESTIONS ON THE INFORMATION SHARED HERE. KINDLY LEAVE YOUR COMMENT ON OUR WEBSITE AT [BCDPC.ORG](http://bcdpc.org) OR YOU CAN WRITE OR CALL US AT:

BCDPC@BOONEHEALTH.ORG
PHONE: 815-547-8388

