



# PREVENTION Connection

2023 • Issue 2

A quarterly newsletter by The Alliance for Healthy Communities

## Bike, Walk, Run

... JOIN THE FUN!



**Saturday, May 6, 2023**  
**9 am to Noon**

**STARKEY PARK - Pavilion A**  
10500 Wilderness Park Blvd., New Port Richey FL

**\$20 Registration, Children 12 & Under FREE**

Contact: Missy.Coyle@baycare.org -or- Eve.Hosley@baycare.org

**GUIDED MOUNTAIN BIKING**  
OR  
**PAVED RIDE**



SCAN TO REGISTER



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Committee Updates .....	Page 4
Quarter 1 - 2023 Highlights .....	Pages 5-8
Quarter 2 - 2023 Upcoming Activities .....	Pages 9-11
Research and Metrics .....	Page 12
STAND News .....	Pages 13-15



United Way of Pasco County







# Hello prevention champions!

We have kicked off the new year with a bang! As you peruse our Spring Prevention Connection Newsletter, you'll see all of the exciting things we have accomplished this quarter, and make sure to check out our upcoming events for details on how you can get involved with our initiatives.

Last year, AHC applied for a Congressional appropriation fund through Congressman Bilirakis' office and in December, we found out it was awarded in full. This funding will support a shared project with The Hope Shot Recovery Community Organization and the project will begin in October. On this note, Kellie Rodriguez is back with us full time to help oversee the project and will take on the role of Project Director. This project promises to bring some exciting new initiatives to our area, so make sure you stay tuned as details develop.

We have had several of our coalition members featured in the media this quarter! Our Substance Exposed Newborn (SEN) Co-Chair Gabby Flores, Board Member Dr. Eddie Williams and our Coalition Members George Wilkins and Makayla Damato all represented ASAP and STAND on television this quarter! Check out page 5 for the exciting photos, and be on the lookout for the segments to air.

Our committees have been hard at work this quarter! The Opioid/RX Committee will be holding their Third Annual Town Hall event on June 14th beginning at 5:00PM at Starkey Ranch Theatre Library Cultural Center! This event is a screening of the movie "Tipping the Pain Scale"

and is a collaboration with several community partners, including Pasco County Government, Recovery Epicenter, Pasco Hernando State College (PHSC) and The Hope Shot. Our Substance Exposed Newborn Committee is holding their annual SEN Resource Fair on June 14th, as well! This event will take place earlier in the day, from 10:00AM-12:00PM at PHSC in New Port Richey. Our other committees are working diligently on their campaigns and upcoming events, working hard to ensure that they are spreading the message of prevention and recovery. Check out page 4 for all our committee updates and how you can get involved.

Last, but certainly not least, our Pedal for Prevention event will take place Saturday, May 6th at Starkey Park from 9:00AM-12:00PM. If you or your organization is interested in sponsoring this event, please contact Missy Coyle at [Missy.Coyle@baycare.org](mailto:Missy.Coyle@baycare.org). This event is fun for all ages, so bring the family and have a morning of outdoor fun for a good cause! All proceeds go back to continuing the work that we do to prevent addiction in youth and promote a culture of sustainable recovery in Pasco County.

As always, we want to thank you, our readers, volunteers, coalition members and supporters. You continue to make a difference in Pasco.

*With Gratitude,*

Chrissie Parris, AHC President and  
Kellie Rodriguez, ASAP Coordinator

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## Thank You to Our 2023 AHC Board of Directors

**Chrissie Parris, President**  
*BayCare Behavioral Health*

**Joseph Resnick**  
*Premier HealthCare Group*

**Kelly Mothershead, Vice President**  
*Keller Williams Realty & New Port Richey City Council*

**Captain Toni Roach**  
*Pasco Sheriff's Office*

**Colleen Beaudoin, Treasurer**  
*Pasco County School Board*

**Art Rowand, Founding Board Member**  
*Retired Law Enforcement Officer*

**Billy Major, Secretary**  
*Pasco Sheriff's Office*

**Cesar Rodriguez**  
*Recovery Community*

**Melissa Fuller**  
*Department of Juvenile Justice*

**Tracey Kaly, Founding Board Member**  
*BayCare Behavioral Health*

**Mike Wells**  
*Property Appraiser*

**Mike Napier**  
*Pasco County Department of Health*

**Dr. Eddie Williams**  
*Pasco Hernando State College*





Alliance for Substance Addiction Prevention

## Pasco ASAP uses local data to direct our prevention programs

### ASAP 2023 PRIORITY ISSUES

- Youth Drug Use
- Underage Drinking
- Opioid Use, Misuse and Addiction
- Rates of Substance Exposed Newborns
- Impaired Driving
- Intravenous Drug Use
- Tobacco Use

### ASAP MISSION

To coordinate community efforts to reduce county-wide risk factors for addiction, thereby preventing and decreasing substance use in a comprehensive and long-term manner that primarily impacts the youth in the community.

### ASAP CONTACT INFORMATION

ASAP@empoweredcommunities.org  
7809 Massachusetts Ave. • New Port Richey FL 34653  
727.315.8658  
www.empoweredcommunities.org

### APRIL ASAP MEETING IN PERSON!

Tuesday, April 25th 10:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Vincent House, Pasco  
11145 Denton Ave. • Hudson, FL 34667  
*Special thanks to Vincent House Pasco's Director, Elizabeth Statzer, for volunteering the space. May and June meetings will be held virtually.*



## ASAP MEETINGS ARE ON **zoom**

### ALCOHOL INITIATIVES

First Monday of every month • 4:30pm • Meeting ID: 844 2750 9059 Password: 207615

### CULTURAL COMPETENCE

Quarterly starting Tuesday, January 17, 2023 • From then on: 3rd Monday of the month • 3:30pm  
Meeting ID: 815 1525 0641 Password: 883088

### GENERAL COALITION

Fourth Tuesday of every month • 10:00am • Meeting ID: 894 8050 6106 Password: 399526  
April: In person • May and June 2023: Virtual

### OPIOID / RX

First Tuesday of every month • 3:00pm • Meeting ID: 834 6615 6874 Password: 344143

### PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND NUTRITION COALITION

First Tuesday of every month • 10:00am • Meeting ID: 233 060 736 792 Password: Tiaqje

### RECOVERY

Fourth Monday of every month • 5:00pm • Meeting ID: 826 7025 4538 Password: 451180

### SUBSTANCE EXPOSED NEWBORN

Second Wednesday of every month • 10:00am • Meeting ID: 828 6547 9166 Password: 061677

**See Committee Updates on Page 4**





# ASAP Committee Updates

## Alcohol Initiatives Committee and Tobacco Free Partnership

As we observe Alcohol Awareness Month in April, we continue to be grateful for our community partners who continue assisting with the mission of reducing underage access to alcohol as well as DUI arrests. The support of our elected officials continues to be a blessing. We are proud to announce the presentation of a proclamation in honor of Power Talk 21, an initiative from our partnership with MADD. The proclamation is scheduled to be presented at the New Port Richey City Hall on April 18, 2023 at 7:00 pm. We are also excited to continue to support the Prom Promise events. These events, presented by multiple community agencies and partners, emphasizes the dangers of driving while intoxicated and the effects the decision can have on others. Five high school locations are selected for this presentation. The times, dates and locations will be announced when finalized. Alcohol Initiatives Committee meets the first Monday of the month at 4:30 pm on Zoom.

## Cultural Competence Committee

The Cultural Competence Committee is excited to announce an upcoming training/discussion lead by Meriel Martínez, Program Director, Nonprofit Leadership Center. The title of the presentation is "Leading Inclusive Teams". It is scheduled to be presented at the Pasco Hernando State College, New Port Richey Campus, 10230 Ridge Road, New Port Richey, on May 22, 2023 at 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM. Please reach out to Bonni.Snider@Baycare.org for more information. The Cultural Competence Committee meets on a quarterly basis (January, April, July and October). Our next meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2023, 3:30 PM.

## Physical Activity and Nutrition Coalition

This is a brand new coalition in partnership with the Pasco Department of Health meeting every other month. We are really excited to help support Pedal for Prevention on May 6. Our next meeting is in June, date to be announced. All are invited to attend. Please reach out to Tatiyana Badal at 727-619-0279 or email: Tatiyana.Badal@flhealth.gov for more information.

## Recovery Committee

The Recovery Committee has been very busy sharing resources and discussing recovery-related issues. We meet the fourth Monday of the month at 5:00 pm on zoom, the zoom address is on page 3. We are gearing up to start planning our 3rd annual Stronger Together Recovery Walk and are looking for lots of community partners. You do not have to be in recovery to attend, all are welcome. Please email Eve.Hosley@Baycare.org for information.

## RX / Opioid Committee

The opioid committee has been keeping busy the past few months. We officially have handed out more than 6,000 DOSC kits out into the community! We have been able to drop off kits at major pharmacies, and other community partners such as Meals on Wheels. Reach out to Parnia if you would like a kit or want more information. Our meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month on zoom. Visit empoweredcommunities.org for times and zoom link.

## SEN Committee

The SEN committee is holding their fourth annual health fair on June 14, 2023 at Pasco Hernando State College West campus from 10am-12pm. The SEN health fair will provide resources to pregnant women, individuals in their childbearing years and supporters. The SEN Committee works on initiatives to help support families with substance exposed newborns as well as prevention efforts. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of every month on Zoom, you can find the address on page 3. For more information on the Health Fair or the regular committee meeting, contact Missy via email at Missy.Coyle@BayCare.org.

## Presenters Wanted!

*Does your agency have something to share with the ASAP Coalition? We are looking for presenters for our monthly meetings.*

*Please email: [asap@empoweredcommunities.org](mailto:asap@empoweredcommunities.org) for more information.*

**Thank you!**



## ASAP In the Media

The ASAP Coalition is comprised of many community partners who assist in our mission of preventing addiction and building sustainable recovery policies in Pasco County. We couldn't do it alone! Our community partners show up and we couldn't be more grateful! Pictured below are some of our amazing coalition members who represented us in the media this quarter.



STAND Advisor Makayla Damato represented STAND on CW-44, WTOG Tampa Bay

[Click Here](#)

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR3Yc2MoY5d8tQjF0v7lbYuH4YQvOKRASHLNEMd9fchsp9uW0JeSa6F0xul&v=mfM8QkkrqNs&mibextid=I066kq>



Opioid Overdose Awareness: Narcan Availability & Safety

ASAP Coalition Member and SEN Committee Co-Chair, Gabby Flores, represented ASAP on WFLA's Bloom in March. Great job Gabby!!!

[Click Here](#)

<https://www.wfla.com/bloom/opioid-overdose-awareness-narcan-availability-safety/amp/>



ASAP Member George Wilkins who represented ASAP on WFLA's Todo in March. (Link not available at press time)



AHC Board Member Dr. Eddie Williams, represented ASAP on WFLA Daytime in March. Thank you, Dr. Williams!

[Click Here](#)

<https://www.wfla.com/daytime/opioid-overdose-awareness/>



## Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

Pasco ASAP and members of our Recovery Committee voted to participate in Law Enforcement Appreciation Day on January 9th. Many smiles were exchanged and several heartfelt thank you's for saving lives. Deliveries of assorted treats and goodies were made to all 3 Pasco Sheriff's Office districts, Port Richey Police Department, New Port Richey Police Department, Dade City Police Department and our friends at Zephyrhills Police Department. Each location received a framed certificate of appreciation. We really value the partnership and appreciate each and every one of our LEO's.



## Congratulations, Dr. Williams

Congratulations to our board member Dr. Eddie Williams of Pasco-Hernando State College for being the FIRST in Florida with all three licenses: LMHC, LMFT and LCSW. Dr. Williams is also licensed in New Jersey as an LPC. You are an inspiration to us all, Dr. Williams!



## Gulfside Wellness and Funfest Event

ASAP participated as a proud friend sponsor at Premier's Health, Wellness and Funfest event at Gulfside elementary. We love partnering with organizations that continue to give back to our youth and provide support to families. Many resources and opportunities for families to engage were available.

This event provided knowledge and wealth on a large scale while having a no cost family fun day for our community. Kudo's to our partners at Premier for setting the stage to engage and collaborate!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

# Gear Up for the 3rd Annual



# PEDAL FOR PREVENTION



Prevention means stopping negative behaviors before they start. According to the 2022 Florida Youth Substance Abuse Survey, more than 30 percent of Pasco County youth ages 10 to 17, have tried alcohol in their lifetime. But what about that 70 percent who have not? In that same age group, 22 percent have vaped nicotine, but what about the 78 percent who have not? Pasco Alliance for Substance Addiction Prevention works to delay or prevent negative choices and consequences for our youth.

Join us as we bike, walk or run to create change, inspire youth, and increase health and wellbeing for all Pasco residents at our 3rd Annual Pedal for Prevention on Saturday, May 6, 2023 from 9am to 12 Noon at Starkey Park, Pavilion A, 10500 Wilderness Park Blvd., New Port Richey. Adult participants are \$20 each, youth age 12 and under are free. All proceeds go to prevent addiction in Pasco County

and create a culture of sustainable health. To Register on Event Brite: [Click Here!](#)

Our event partner, SWAMP Mountain Biking Club, will offer a Guided Mountain Biking in addition to a “fun ride” along the paved bike path. We are proud to be sponsored by Pasco Hernando State College, and the event is hosted by the new Nutrition and Physical Activity Coalition, a partnership with the Florida Department of Health.

Please email [Eve.Hosley@Baycare.org](mailto:Eve.Hosley@Baycare.org) or [Missy.Coyle@Baycare.org](mailto:Missy.Coyle@Baycare.org)

Vendor tables available and donation baskets. Please visit the following websites for more information:

<https://www.swampmtbclub.com>

<https://pasco.floridahealth.gov>

<https://phsc.edu>

Thank you for supporting all we do in Pasco County.



# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

## Opioid Committee 3rd Annual Townhall

Our RX committee is excited to announce the first ever Live Town Hall, the last two have been virtual and we are happy to finally come together to combat addiction in person. The Townhall will include a screening of #TippingThePainScale at the Starkey Ranch Theatre

Library Cultural Center on June 14th, 2023. Register below! The movie will be followed by a brief panel discussion with community leaders on breaking the stigma and combatting the opioid epidemic. Space is limited and be sure to register today!

ADDICTION ISN'T A CHOICE. COMPASSION IS.

# TIPPING THE PAIN SCALE

## ASAP'S 3RD ANNUAL OPIOID TOWN HALL

END THE STIGMA.

JOIN US FOR A VIEWING OF "TIPPING THE PAIN SCALE" FOLLOWED BY A PANEL DISCUSSION WITH PROMINENT COMMUNITY LEADERS WORKING TO END OVERDOSE.



Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Starkey Ranch Theatre Library Cultural Center

5:00pm- 8:00pm

[Register here](#)



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# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

## JASON DANIEL HUGHES *Memorial Scholarship*

Transitional living assistance for those seeking recovery from addiction  
*Honoring our esteemed board member, Kelly Mothersheads, son who lost his struggle with addiction.*

HELP US REDUCE BARRIERS TO PERSONS SEEKING LONG-TERM RECOVERY BY PROVIDING ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS TO TRANSITIONAL LIVING TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES.

*\*Funds will assist with transitional living costs*



SCAN  
HERE



Alliance for  
Substance  
Addiction  
Prevention

### 3 WAYS TO DONATE

**Thank you  
for making  
a difference!**

Text 'Prevention' to 243725 or visit: [www.empoweredcommunities.org](http://www.empoweredcommunities.org) and click Donate.  
Please write in the "Donor Name" line, Your Name as well as the words, "FOR JASON"

Losing a loved one to addiction is hard. You are not alone.

## **Journey to Healing Hearts**

**CANCELLED APRIL & MAY 2023**  
*Will resume in June*

*Virtual Support Group*  
First Thursday of the month • 6:00pm

*Zoom Link:*  
Meeting ID: 820 5783 1059  
Passcode: 442098

*For inquiries:*

[ASAP@empoweredcommunitites.org](mailto:ASAP@empoweredcommunitites.org)



## KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!



**Free Virtual  
Groups  
Wednesdays  
from  
1:00pm - 2:00pm**

**Topics Such As:**  
**Marijuana and Pregnancy**  
**Resource Correction**  
**Relationship Skills and More**

**Please register on EventBrite:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/knowledge-is-power-converse-with-nurse-free-virtual-group-for-families-tickets-153672513625>

**Email: [Missy.Coyle@Baycare.org](mailto:Missy.Coyle@Baycare.org)**





# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

## DEA NATIONAL <sup>Rx</sup> TAKEBACK

KEEP THEM SAFE.  
CLEAN THEM OUT.  
TAKE THEM BACK.



Turn in unneeded medication  
for safe disposal.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 22**

**10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

TWO LOCATIONS:

WALMART: 12610 US-19, HUDSON

TAMPA PREMIUM OUTLETS: 2300 GRAND CYPRESS DR, LUTZ



## Take ASAP's Stigma Pledge, You Might Win a Prize!

A few years ago, in an effort to reduce stigma, Pasco ASAP removed the term 'abuse' from our name, replacing it with the word 'addiction'. This small change was the first step to bring awareness to language and how it may inadvertently stigmatize those with substance use disorder or a mental health diagnosis. We launched a campaign to challenge each of us to transform the dialogue on addiction and reduce stigma in our community. It started with a pledge, and in 2023 we are reinvigorating this campaign and are asking you for your help. Please visit our website at [empoweredcommunities.org](http://empoweredcommunities.org) and take our pledge as well as our stigma survey. You will be entered into a drawing to win a prize! We also have a downloadable toolkit that features a power point presentation and other materials. If you would like us to come and talk about stigma to your organization, we are available to do that as well.

#EndStigmaASAP #ChangetheLanguageASAP

## 4TH ANNUAL SEN RESOURCE FAIR 2023



Discover the resources Pasco County has to offer pregnant women and those of childbearing age.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14 | 10 A.M. - 12 P.M.**

**PASCO HERNANDO STATE COLLEGE**

10230 RIDGE ROAD, NEW PORT RICHEY, FL 34654  
BUILDING R



[www.EmpoweredCommunities.org](http://www.EmpoweredCommunities.org)

Email: [Missy.Coyle@Baycare.org](mailto:Missy.Coyle@Baycare.org)

**TO GET TO  
ALCOHOL**

**TEENS HAVE  
TO GET**

**THROUGH  
US**

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Alliance for  
Substance  
Addiction  
Prevention





**FREE NARCAN & OPIOID RESOURCES**

**Friday, April 7th**

**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

**Location:**

**DOH-Pasco  
13941 15th Street  
Dade City, FL 33525**

If you are unable to make the April 7th event in Dade City, you can pick up FREE Narcan at any of the locations below:

**New Port Richey Clinic**  
10841 Little Road  
New Port Richey, FL 34654  
Monday - Friday 8-5

**Wesley Chapel Clinic**  
33845 FL-54  
Wesley Chapel, FL 33543  
Monday & Friday 8-5



**Looking for  
Community Partners**



**Tobacco Free Living for  
a Healthier Community**

Tobacco Free Pasco is a diverse community partnership which fosters collaborative initiatives to develop and promote policies that reduce the use and effects of tobacco.



**TFP meeting date: Tuesday, May 16, 2023 • 10am**

We invite you to join our partnership and attend our quarterly meetings



Together we can make Pasco County Tobacco Free!

[info@tobaccofreepasco.com](mailto:info@tobaccofreepasco.com)

[TobaccoFreePasco.com](http://TobaccoFreePasco.com)

SAVE A LIFE  
**STOP AN OVERDOSE  
WITH NARCAN**



SCAN THE QR CODE TO REQUEST A NALOXONE KIT.

**FREE OF CHARGE. NO QUESTIONS ASKED.**

#NOTONEMORELIFE



**MAMMOGRAPHY  
BUS SCREENING**

**APRIL 15, 2023**

**8:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.**

Florida Department of Health in Pasco County  
10841 Little Rd.  
New Port Richey, FL 34654

**Details on Eligibility Call or Email:**  
727-619-0369 or [Pasco.Web@FLHealth.gov](mailto:Pasco.Web@FLHealth.gov)

Be on the lookout for a future date when the mammography bus will be in Dade City



**AUTOBUS DE  
MAMOGRAFIA**

**15 de Abril de 2023**

**8:30 A.M. a 2:30 P.M.**

Departamento de Salud de Florida en el condado de Pasco  
10841 Little Rd.  
New Port Richey, FL 34654

**Detalles sobre su elegibilidad contactanos:**  
727-619-0369 or [Pasco.Web@FLHealth.gov](mailto:Pasco.Web@FLHealth.gov)



Este pendiente y pronto anunciaremos la fecha del autobus de mamografia en Dade City!







## COALITION METRICS

2023	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTALS YTD
Community Events Tabled	6				
Social Media Impact	8,568				
Individuals Educated through News/Traditional Media					
SEN Knowledge Is Power Virtual Group attendees	60				
Medication Timer Caps Dist.	35				
Deterra Bags Dist. (DOSK Kits)	390				
Medication Poundage Collected:					
Dade City PD					
Pasco Sherriff's Office	317.4				
Port Richey PD					
New Port Richey PD	35.55				
Zephyrhills PD					
DEA Takeback (2xs Year)					
Narcan:					
Pasco Sherriff's Deloyments					
Successful (life saved)	46				
Unsuccessful (deceased)	4				
DCF Collected Pasco Data					
Narcan Kits Distributed	360				
Successful Deployments (lives saved)	41				
Narcan Kits handed out at ASAP Events	75				
QR Code Scans					
Narcan Collaboration	169				
34668 Resource Guide	19				
ASAP Website	2				
Stand PSA	12				
AIC Ad Campaign	2				
Jason Daniel Hughes Memorial Scholarship					

**Community Presentation and Townhalls:**

**Community Wellness Events:**

February 7-8, 2023: 13 attended Advocacy Day in Tallahassee for STAND  
January 16, 2023: 30 attended STAND Visioning Event

**News/Traditional Media Appearances:**

STAND, Makayla Damato, featured on CW-44, WTOG Tampa Bay  
SEN, Gabby Flores, Committee featured on WFLA Bloom  
ASAP, Dr. Eddie Williams, featured on WFLA Daytime  
ASAP Represented by George Wilkins, on WFLA TODO





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# YOUTH COALITION



STAND in Pasco County #STANDUpPasco



stand\_up\_pasco



Stand\_up\_Pasco



StandupPasco

## STAND UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Thursday, April 6, 2023 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm:** West Pasco STAND Meeting at the New Port Richey Recreation Center (Oak Room), 6630 Van Buren Street, New Port Richey, FL 34653

**Thursday, April 13, 2023 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm:** East Pasco STAND Meeting at YES, 15029 14th St, Dade City, FL 33523

**Thursday, May 4, 2023 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm:** West Pasco STAND Meeting at the New Port Richey Recreation Center (Oak Room), 6630 Van Buren Street, New Port Richey, 34653

**Saturday, May 6, 2023 - 9:00 am to Noon** STAND Table and Volunteer at Pedal for Prevention, email [Eve.Hosley@Baycare.org](mailto:Eve.Hosley@Baycare.org) for information.

**Thursday, May 11, 2023 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm:** East Pasco STAND Meeting at YES, 15029 14th St, Dade City, FL 33523

**Thursday, June 1, 2023 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm:** West Pasco STAND Meeting at the New Port Richey Recreation Center (Oak Room), 6630 Van Buren Street, New Port Richey, 34653

**Thursday, June 8, 2023 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm:** East Pasco STAND Meeting at YES, 15029 14th St, Dade City, FL 33523

**Wednesday, June 21 - 10 am to 3 pm:** STAND Summit (see page 14 for details)

**Thursday, July 6, 2023:** West Pasco STAND Meeting CANCELLED

**Thursday, July 13, 2023 - 5:30 to 6:30 pm:** East Pasco STAND Meeting at YES, 15029 14th St, Dade City, FL 33523

**Tuesday, July 25, 2023 - 10 am to Noon:** STAND Panel at ASAP General Meeting (location TBA)



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### STAND Mission

STAND Above the Influence is a youth led coalition that empowers youth to be agents of change by strengthening their voices and educating others to build a healthier community.

### STAND Vision

To inspire innovative communities that embrace the voices of youth to affect positive change in cultivating safe and healthy communities.

### Contact Information

[STAND@empoweredcommunities.org](mailto:STAND@empoweredcommunities.org)  
7809 Massachusetts Ave.  
New Port Richey, Florida 34653  
[www.empoweredcommunities.org](http://www.empoweredcommunities.org)

STAND ABOVE THE INFLUENCE

Powered by Alliance for Healthy Communities



Want to use your voice for positive change?

JOIN US!

## EAST PASCO STAND MEETING

Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 5:30pm

YES - Youth Entrepreneurial Students office  
15029 14th St, Dade City, FL 33523

Volunteer hours and pizza provided

PLEASE RSVP TO:

[makayla.damato@baycare.org](mailto:makayla.damato@baycare.org)

<https://empoweredcommunities.org/stand/home/>



@stand\_up\_pasco



STAND in Pasco County



# STAND Visioning Event

STAND youth hosted their Visioning 2023 event on January 16th at the LaneGlo North in Port Richey. The event was open to middle and high school students. During the event, students identified priority initiatives for 2023 as well as the resources needed to make the necessary changes that will improve the lives of youth

and their families. They decided on: education on substance misuse, increasing mental health support and community/ school inclusion. Bowling, pizza and fun was also on the agenda. If you would like to learn more about STAND and help with upcoming initiatives, contact Eve via email at [Eve.Hosley@BayCare.org](mailto:Eve.Hosley@BayCare.org).



2nd Annual

**STAND** ABOVE THE INFLUENCE

## CHANGE BEGINS WITH YOU(TH)

*Summit*

**from Inspiration to Action**

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

10AM - 3PM

**Pasco Hernando State College**

10230 Ridge Rd, New Port Richey, FL 34654

**DJ & Prizes Lunch Provided**

**Inspirational Speakers**

**Volunteer Hours**

**Open to ALL**

**Middle & High School Youth**

[empoweredcommunities.org](http://empoweredcommunities.org)

→  
REGISTER  
ON EVENTBRITE  
SEATING IS  
LIMITED



SCAN ME





# STAND ABOVE THE INFLUENCE

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## Tallahassee

On February 7th and 8th, STAND had the amazing opportunity to go to Tallahassee for Advocacy Day. STAND was able to join in with more than 70 other advocates to present on three topics: behavioral health equity, marijuana and pregnancy, and the lack of regulation of Delta 8. STAND's advisors, Eve Hosley-Moore, Bonni Snider, Sandy Soares, Makayla Damato, and Sharon Schmidt, chaperoned STAND youth leaders Maddie, Liam, Jaylynn, Cristalina, Darion, Kylie, and Savannah. The first day, STAND Youth were briefed on what topics were to be discussed and how to best approach talking to the legislators. STAND youth showed initiative by answering questions, and discussed which youth would speak about each topic, the introduction and conclusion, and who would be in charge of giving the

legislators the packets of information. That evening, the students practiced their presentation. The following day, STAND joined many other coalitions from around the state to meet with lawmakers about the substance use issues facing Florida. STAND youth were given the opportunity to speak with seven elected officials including Pasco County Senator Burgess and Representative Yeager. The youth not only did an amazing job representing STAND and the Pasco County community and gained an experience for their resume, but had the chance to grow closer as a group of passionate friends and gain a memorable experience together. STAND advisors thank the youth for all their hard work preparing for Advocacy Day and look forward to visiting Tallahassee next year!

