

It's Your Move!



Jackson County

DRUG-FREE COUNCIL

LETTER

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Fall 2005

A Holiday Message From The Director



Thanksgiving is the particularly seminal American Holiday. Blessed with natural bounty, sociopolitical freedom and multi-cultural traditions, we naturally feel an obligation to give thanks for such providential favors.

The Jackson County Drug-Free Council too has reason to offer thanks this holiday season. Drug abuse continues its overall downward trend in Indiana. Meth production is on the wane locally. The Council has been awarded a substantial federal grant to support our efforts in educating our youth about the dangers associated with ATOD abuse issues, and our mini-grant program has been bolstered with additional grant funding. The Council is growing and exerting an ever increasing influence in the community.

With so much for which to be thankful, I offer my heartiest . . .

Happy Thanksgiving!



Officers:

Brenda Turner, President

Myra Mellencamp, V. President

Libby Roberts, Secretary

Rhonda Fountain, Treasurer

Officers and Board Members 2006

Elections were held in October and November.
Congratulations and Thank You to our new corps
of Officers and Board Members!

Board Members:

Andy Wayman

Beth White

Brenda Turner

Don Walker

Eric Turner

Libby Roberts

Mark Williams

Mary Beavers

Myra Mellencamp

Rhonda Fountain

Roger Marling



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL
POLICY

Contact: ONDCP
Wednesday, September 21, 2005

ANNOUNCES \$75,289 ANTI-DRUG COALITION
GRANT FOR GIRLS INC. and JACKSON COUNTY
DRUG-FREE COUNCIL

(Washington, D.C.) –The Office of National Drug Control Policy today announced that JACKSON COUNTY will receive a \$75,289 Drug-Free Communities matching grant for the JACKSON COUNTY DRUG-FREE COUNCIL and GIRLS INC. The grant was one of 535 renewal grants totaling \$54 million awarded today to community anti-drug coalitions across the country. The goal of the 711 local coalitions is to work together to prevent and reduce drug, alcohol, and tobacco abuse among youth. Coalitions are comprised of diverse groups of people, including community leaders, parents, youth, teachers, religious and fraternal organizations, health care and business professionals, law enforcement, and the media.

“This is great news for the anti-drug efforts of Jackson County.” said Tom Rothring, Coalition Director. Rexanne Ude, Girls Inc. CEO, added, “The Drug-Free Communities Program and other drug prevention efforts are important elements of a balanced national drug control strategy. Our coalition is doing crucial drug prevention work in our community and this additional influx of Federal money will help us expand our efforts and reach more of Jackson County’s children with the Friendly PEERsuasion Program in our county’s schools and other initiatives.”

John Walters, Director of National Drug Control Policy and the nation’s “Drug Czar,” said, “As a nation, we have made significant progress in protecting our young people from the dangers of substance abuse, with a 17 percent reduction in drug use over the last three years. This grant will help the dedicated citizens of Jackson County contribute even more to this effort and will help build on the important progress being made to keep our children healthy and drug-free.”

We are pleased to be working with ONDCP to administer the Drug-Free Communities Program,” said Charles Curie, Administrator, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. “Some of the most important work to reduce drug use comes from our Nation’s grass-roots community coalitions. These coalitions, teamed up with our Strategic Prevention Framework Grants to the states, create a powerful force that can continue to drive down the numbers of young people using illicit drugs.”

The Drug-Free Communities Program provides grants of up to \$500,000 over five years to community organizations that serve as catalysts for citizen participation in local drug prevention efforts. Another \$17.1 million will support 176 new grantees that were selected from 411 applicants through a competitive peer review process. To qualify for matching grants, all awardees must have at least a six-month history of working together on substance abuse reduction initiatives, develop a long-term plan to reduce substance abuse, and participate in a national evaluation of the Drug-Free Communities Program.



Community Focus Forum

Wednesday, October 12, 2005



Lin M. speaks to the Community Focus Forum participants.

Schneck Medical Center Women's Health Fair

Saturday, October 29, 2005

Thanks to Lin Montgomery and Pam Hess for their help staffing the booth.

D.A.R.E. Graduation at Crothersville and Brownstown Area Schools

Thursday, November 17, 2005

Thanks to Officer Tom Wright Sr. for inviting the Coalition Director to address the ceremonies concerning the mission of the Drug-Free Council.

Public Awareness Events

This fall the Jackson County Drug-Free Council participated in several events to increase the awareness of the Council and its mission among county residents.

"Our work in this arena is never over," said Coalition Director, Tom Rothring. "We need to continue to exploit every avenue available to us in spreading the word about substance abuse issues."

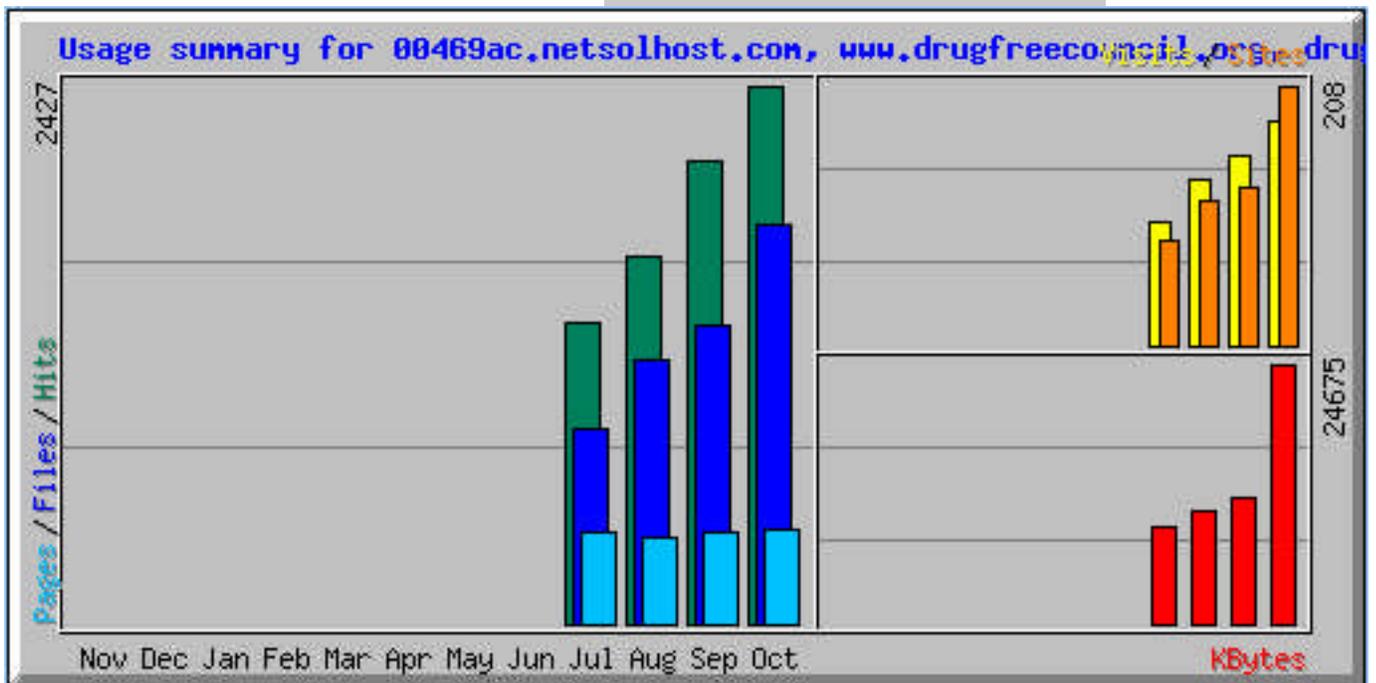


www.drugfreecouncil.org Experiences Phenomenal Growth

As evidenced by the statistical chart below, the website continues to experience a rapid rate of growth in hits, pages viewed and bandwidth used.

Almost 2500 hits were registered in October alone.

With winter coming on, the web surfing season will be in full swing which should help us sustain good numbers.





Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Situation Reaching Conclusion

After some initial confusion concerning the \$15,494.00 Byrne JAG funding stream, Ms. Traci Lee-Williams of the DOJ has clarified the situation and informed the Council of the steps we need yet to take to access the grant monies.

The Director has begun the process outlined and fully expects the funds to be received in the very near future.

Committees' Schedules Filling Fast

The Council's committees are gearing up for the coming year. The Media/Public Relations Committee is meeting the first Monday of every month under the leadership of Chris McNeely, and the Grant Oversight Committee has been divided into the Federal Grant Oversight Committee and the Mini Grant Oversight Committee. The Policy and Procedures Committee is wrapping up extensive changes to the Policy and Procedures Manual, and the Nominations Committee has completed its work for the year.

The Director urges all Council members to consider serving on one or more committees, please E-mail him with your preferences.



**Spread the Word
pass our newsletter
on to those you feel may be
interested in the
Council's work and mission.**

**Look for our Winter issue
coming in March**

**Drug Tip Line
524-7442
Then press option "2"**

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Thomas E. Rothring , Coalition Director**