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Parent Leader

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Membership Drive Results!

Mention Food and everyone comes running! We had a great membership drive last month. Ms. Philips brought in 55% of her parents and 15% of her kids winning her class a pizza party. Ms. Wansley brought in 45% of her parents and 9% of her kids, winning her class a popcorn and movie party. Ms. Holland brought in 36% of her parents and 10% of her class, winning the class a popcorn and movie party. Ms. Newman brought 36% of her parents and 4% of her students winning the class a pizza party. Ms. Linker brought in 40% of her parents and 60% of her students winning her class a popcorn and movie party. There was a run-off between Ms. Sullivan and Ms. Whitaker's class with Ms. Whitaker taking the lead. She was able to bring in 72% of her parents and 100% of her students. A big thank you goes out to Ms. Sullivan, who also received 100% participation from her students! I could not have done this without the help of the **WONDERFUL** teachers and staff members at Waxhaw! It is **NEVER** too late to join. Call me or log onto the school website for a form!

Waxhaw Elementary School Parent Corps

"Parents Supporting Parents"

Parents Smoke, Kids Don't: Prevention in the Home Works for Children of Tobacco Users

CHAPEL HILL, N.C., Jan. 2 (AScribe Newswire) – Parents who can't quit smoking can still take decisive action to prevent their kids from smoking, according to new research published today. A three-year study found that kids whose parents smoke were half as likely to try cigarettes if their parents instituted a home-based anti-smoking program. The study of 776 children and their parents was published in the January issue of the Archives of Pediatrics & Adolescent Medicine, a journal of the American Medical Association. Parents smoking habits

can greatly increase the risk of their children smoking. Research shows that if one or both parents smoke, children may have at least twice the risk of becoming habitual smokers by the time they graduate from high school. "The fact that parents who smoke can exert a protective anti-smoking effect on their children might seem counter-intuitive," said study author Christine Jackson, Ph.D., a senior research scientist at PIRE Chapel Hill Center. "Other research has already found that strong parental attitudes and actions against smoking reduce

the odds of children using tobacco. Our study found that the same is true even when the parents themselves are smokers." Parents, not peers or siblings, are the primary socializing influences during the childhood years, particularly when it comes to personal activities such as diet, physical activity, media use, sexuality and substance abuse, including tobacco use.

But, socializing kids against smoking requires much more than just telling them not to do it. The anti-smoking ***(see back for more article)***

New Study shows more people in drug treatment programs begun using before age 13

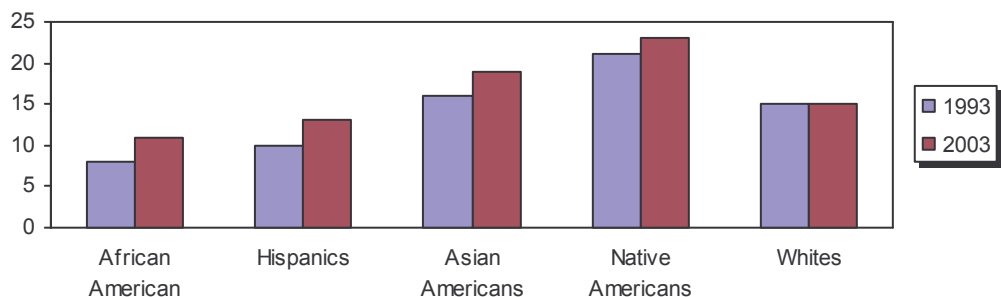
More people in treatment for drug abuse, other than alcohol abuse, began using at least one of their problem drugs prior to the age of 13. The data over the past decade show that in 1993, 12 percent of admissions to treatment for drugs (114,462 people) began using their substances before age 13. By 2003, 14 percent of admissions (162,708 people) began using drugs prior to age 13. These findings were released January 26, 2006 in a report by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Services Administration (SAMHSA) from continued analysis of the Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS). The report, "Age of First Use Among Admissions for Drugs: 1993 and 2003", notes that the percentage of treatment admissions that initiated drug use before age 13 increased between 1993 and 2003 for marijuana and opiates. "Age at first use is an important predictor of the potential for serious substance abuse problems later in life," said SAMHSA Administrator Charles Currie. "The increase in the proportion of admissions for drug use before age 13 should be a wake-up call to parents to speak with their

children early and often about the dangers of drug use."

The report is available on the web at www.oas.samhsa.gov.

SAMHSA, a public health agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, is the lead federal agency for improving the quality and availability of substance abuse prevention, addiction treatment and mental health services in the United States.

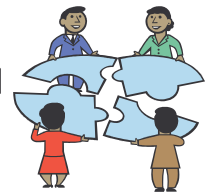


Parents Smoke; Kids Don't Continued

program that was studied, Smoke-Free Kids (<http://www.familyhealthresearch.org>), consists of six activity guides for parents and their children ages 8-10 that include games, contests and role-playing. The purpose is to increase effective communication about smoking between parents and kids, including an honest exchange about the parents' smoking history and addiction and why that relates to expected abstinence among children. Smoke-Free Kids was not designed to get parents to quit smoking, although 15 percent of the parents involved did quit by the end of the three-year study. However, whether or not a parent quit smoking did not have an impact on the program's success in deterring kids from smoking.

"Parents who smoke feel guilty about being role models for smoking; they feel hypocritical about trying to prevent their children from smoking," Jackson said. "For these reasons, it's difficult to persuade parents who smoke to become anti-smoking advocates in the home."

"Still, most parents who smoke ardently hope that their children do not smoke," she said. "Public health educators and pediatricians should make a special effort to help parents who smoke take action, so that their children won't face the same deadly health threat that they face," Jackson said. The study is entitled "Enabling Parents Who Smoke to Prevent Their Children From Initiating Smoking: Results from a Three-year Intervention Evaluation." Both Smoke-Free Kids and the research evaluating it were funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the National Cancer Institute.



Want a **FREE, FUN** way to spend time with your child?

Waxhaw Elementary

Parent/Child Adventure Day!

3rd-5th grade students

and their Parent(s) or Guardian(s)

(siblings welcome)

Saturday, March 25th from 10-12

(Meet in the school gymnasium)

Rain or Shine

If interested sign up by calling Tracy Hickman at 704-843-7578 or emailing at tracy.hickman@parentcorps.org

Refreshments will be provided and transportation can be arranged if needed!

Please check out our blog on www.parentcorps.org! Just click onto North Carolina and the Waxhaw site or check out the school's website at <http://wxes.cups.k12.nc.us>

POSITION :

***Mom, Mommy, Mama, Ma
Dad, Daddy, Dada, Pa***

JOB DESCRIPTION : Long term, team players needed, for challenging permanent work in an, often chaotic environment. Candidates must possess excellent communication and organizational skills and be willing to work variable hours, which will include evenings and weekends and frequent 24 hour shifts on call. Some overnight travel required, including trips to primitive camping sites on rainy weekends and endless sports tournaments in far away cities! Travel expenses not reimbursed. Extensive courier duties also required.

RESPONSIBILITIES : The rest of your life. Must be willing to be hated, at least temporarily, until someone needs \$5. Must be willing to bite tongue repeatedly. Also, must possess the physical stamina of a pack mule and be able to go from zero to 60 mph in three seconds flat in case, this time, the screams from the backyard are not someone just crying wolf. Must be willing to face stimulating technical challenges, such as small gadget repair, mysteriously sluggish toilets and stuck zippers. Must screen phone calls, maintain calendars and coordinate production of multiple homework projects. Must have ability to plan and organize social gatherings for clients of all ages and mental outlooks. Must be willing to be indispensable one minute, an embarrassment the next. Must handle assembly and product safety testing of a half million cheap, plastic toys, and battery operated devices. Must always hope for the best but be prepared for the worst. Must assume final, complete accountability for the quality of the end product. Responsibilities also include floor maintenance and janitorial work throughout the facility.

POSSIBILITY FOR ADVANCEMENT & PROMOTION : None. Your job is to remain in the same position for years, without complaining, constantly retraining and updating your skills, so that those in your charge can ultimately surpass you

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE : None required unfortunately. On-the-job training offered on a continually exhausting basis.

WAGES AND COMPENSATION : Get this! You pay them! Offering frequent raises and bonuses. A balloon payment is due when they turn 18 because of the assumption that college will help them become financially independent. When you die, you give them whatever is left. The oddest thing about this reverse-salary scheme is that you actually enjoy it and wish you could only do more.

BENEFITS : While no health or dental insurance, no pension, no tuition reimbursement, no paid holidays and no stock options are offered; this job supplies limitless opportunities for personal growth and free hugs for life if you play your cards right.

Remember you are important in your child's life!!