

2017 Accomplishments/ Successes



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP hosted a Youth Leadership Summit for the STAND program where 30 youth learned how to educate community decision makers, augment their voices, and be a collective force for change in Pasco County. The West Pasco Chamber of Commerce invited ASAP on the My Chamber TV program to share key messages of prevention with a wider Pasco County audience. ASAP partnered with local schools and treatment centers to launch an Addiction and Art campaign, in which participants were encouraged to depict addiction as they perceive it. 	<p>January</p> <p>February</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP's Alcohol Initiatives Committee had the privilege of having their #SAFERIDEPASCO campaign poster displayed at the CADCA National Leadership Forum in National Harbor, Maryland. ASAP coalition members and youth partnered with the Pasco Sheriff Department and created and filmed a PSA of how to dispose of unused medication.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP was identified by CADCA to be a site for a pilot project regarding Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)! 	<p>March</p> <p>April</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP Coordinator spoke in front of the opioid listening tour started by Governor Scott and discussed solutions to the opioid epidemic impacting communities across the state. New Port Richey Mayor Rob Marlowe proclaimed that April as Alcohol Awareness Month in the city of New Port Richey in collaboration with NCAAD and ASAP. ASAP moderated a panel discussion on sexual assault and violence at the New Port Richey for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The Suncoast News promoted the DEA Take Back Day in their newspaper to spread awareness about the drop off sites for unused medication. ASAP supported the Pasco Sheriff Department in their 13th DEA Take Back Event and collected over 1,000 pounds of unused medication.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NAMI Pasco and ASAP teamed up to raise awareness among the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners and residents by pursuing a resolution declaring May as Mental Health Awareness Month. ASAP coalition members and board members participated in a roundtable discussion with Congressman Bilirakis and discussed the importance of increasing access to substance abuse recovery and treatment services. 	<p>May</p> <p>June</p> <p>July</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP was represented in a presentation about Impaired Driving Prevention to over 100 people at the annual Community Anti Drug Coalitions of American Conference in Atlanta, Georgia! Back by popular demand, youth in the community were requested to share their perspectives of community drug problems at the July ASAP general meeting.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Suncoast News featured ASAP in the article "Judge to lead discussion on preventing opioid overdoses" to help promote ASAP's community discussion event. ASAP hosted a community discussion designed to educate the community about opioid overdose and what all individuals can do to save the lives of those suffering with the chronic illness of addiction. 	<p>August</p> <p>September</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In honor of National Recovery Month, Dade City commissioners adopted a resolution formally recognizing National Recovery Month and the needs of those with addiction with collaboration from ASAP. ASAP was invited to join host Carly Boyette on the Tampa Bay's Morning Blend show to promote the annual conference. The 6th Annual Substance Abuse Prevention Conference Strengthening Our Communities: Opportunities for Action took place and had over 400 registrants!
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Congressman Gus Bilirakis joined ASAP and community members for a roundtable discussion on addiction and what needs to be done at the federal level to help reverse the opioid crisis. ASAP was invited to speak on the CW44 talk show to discuss substance abuse and promote the annual conference. ASAP coordinator Monica Rousseau and USF professor Dr. Khary Rhigg presented about the opioid epidemic in rural areas at the Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Annual Conference in Orlando. 	<p>October</p> <p>November</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 200 hundred community members attended the NOPE Candlelight Vigil which included poetry, music, and speakers who shared personal stories, which was meant to honor the hundreds of people in Pasco County who have died from drug overdoses. ASAP was mentioned in the Tampa Bay Times article "Vigil calls attention to overdose victims, and brings hope" to highlight the NOPE Vigil event.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 152 community members attend ASAP's annual brunch where Dr. Paula O'Neil emceed and celebrated substance abuse successes and Kent Runyon from Novus Detox and STAND youth member Destinee Dale won the volunteer of the year award! Throughout 2017, there have been over 400,000 Facebook likes, shares, comments and Twitter likes and retweets promoting substance abuse prevention, ASAP's initiatives, and community events. The Pasco County Sheriff Department, New Port Richey Police Department, and the Dade City Police Department collected 3,511.11 pounds of unused or expired prescriptions that were dropped off at the several drop box locations. 	<p>December</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASAP presented at the legislative delegation to inform the state legislature on substance abuse concerns here in Pasco County.