Thank You Jolly Boys of Williamsville

ECCPASA would like to thank the Jolly Boys of Williamsville for awarding the agency with a generous grant. We have partnered with the Jolly Boys of Williamsville for several years to provide social skills and substance abuse prevention programming to students and their parents who attend schools throughout the Town of Amherst.

In previous years, due to the support of the Jolly Boys, ECCPASA has been able to partner with schools, law enforcement, and courts to provide Parent Awareness Forums to parents of students who attend schools in the Amherst, Sweet Home, and Williamsville school districts. The Parent Awareness Forums serve to educate parents of incoming freshmen about the dangers of potential substance use in teens. The Forums also provide warning signs to look for, and resources to help if their teen is already using. In addition, with their support, staff also facilitates social skills programming including An Apple A Day and Skills for Tomorrow to several public and parochial elementary schools throughout the Amherst, Sweet Home, and Williamsville school districts.

With this generous donation, ECCPASA will be able to expand our programming for the 2015-2016 school year. The Parent Awareness Forums facilitator will be able to update materials for presentations, trainings, and speaking engagements as well as continue the SafeHomes program throughout the Town of Amherst. An Apple A Day and Skills for Tomorrow programs will also continue in the many elementary schools where they currently take place. ECCPASA also hopes to expand programming into new schools with the help of this grant.

We would like to once-again sincerely thank the Jolly Boys of Williamsville for continuing to partner and support our agency as we provide comprehensive substance abuse programming.
Letter from the Interim Executive Director

Robin Mann

I would like to start off by saying “thank you” to all who were able to attend our Annual Meeting in October. We had a wonderful turnout this year and it was great to see all of our friends and supporters gather with us for lunch!

This year has brought many changes to The Council. A few of our long-term staff have embraced retirement and we have welcomed some wonderful new staff to the ECCPASA family. Along with new staff came the expansion of current programs and the implementation of new programs. However, there’s one thing that has remained consistent, the staff’s commitment and dedication to providing professional, quality, and effective trainings and programs to the children, families, and professionals of Erie County.

As we are in the midst of the holiday season, celebrating together with family and friends, let us keep in mind that for some this may be a very difficult time. It may be a time of sadness and/or isolation, which can lead to coping in an unhealthy way, such as increased substance use. As the holidays quickly approach, I encourage you to give a gift that doesn’t cost anything! Give a little of your time, a compliment, a kind word, or even a smile. A little goes a long way.

ECCPASA wishes you a happy and healthy holiday season!

Robin

Avoid Holiday Tragedies
DON’T DRINK AND DRIVE!

- Americans can expect to witness 1,200 alcohol-related traffic deaths during the holiday season
- 52% of fatal car accidents on Christmas Day and 57% of traffic fatalities on New Year’s Eve/Day will be directly attributable to alcohol (MADD)
- 25,000 traffic injuries will result from alcohol consumption during this time of year (CDC)

Resources and Contacts:

Adult Children of Alcoholics - c/o ECCPASA 716.831.2298
Al-Anon & Alateen - 716.856.2520 www.aiswny.org
Alcoholics Anonymous - 716.853.0388 www.aa.org
Crisis Services - 716.834.3131 www.crisisservices.org Kids Helpline - 716.834.1144
Erie County Sheriff’s Office Underage Drinking Hotline - 1.800.851.1932
Gamblers Anonymous & Gam-Anon - 716.879.0555 www.gamblersanonymous.org
Nar-Anon - 716.875.0548 www.nar-anon.org
Narcotics Anonymous - 716.878.2316 www.na.org
National Association for Children of Alcoholics - www.nacoa.org
Save Our Selves - Non-religious support for twelve-step recovery www.cfiwest.org/sos/index.htm
Western New York 211 Health and Human Services - 211 www.211wny.org
ECCPASA Calendar of Events

Winter 2015 Community Education Calendar

Registration will begin at 8:30 am. Training will begin promptly at 9:00 am.

Trainings held at the Harlem Road Community Center
4255 Harlem Rd. ~ Amherst ~ NY ~ 14226

CASAC/CPP/CPS credits upon approval

January 27, 2016 – What Are Our Local Drug Enforcement Officials Seeing?

By: John Flickinger, Resident Agent in Charge, DEA Buffalo Resident Office and Dan Rinaldo, Drug Intelligence Officer, High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program

Join some of Buffalo’s finest drug enforcement officials as they discuss what they are seeing in our local area. Agent Flickinger and Officer Rinaldo will speak on various issues of drug abuse, addiction, and drug awareness. They will also discuss problematic narcotics such as prescription painkillers and heroin, as well as other drugs, including meth and synthetic drugs. Drug trafficking will also be a topic explored, as our proximity to New York City and the Canadian border contribute to our area’s drug trafficking issues.

February 24, 2016 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Cultural Competency Training

By: Damian Mordecai, Program Manager of The Pride Center of WNY

During this training, participants will learn and/or enhance their knowledge of LGBT people, terminology, history, and culture. Participants will also learn ways in which to create a safe and welcoming environment for LGBT people. Additionally, concerns of bullying, confidentiality, gendered spaces, increased risk of mental health issues and substance abuse, and the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) will be discussed. The presenter will also review what it means to be LGBT-affirmative.

To Register Contact: Cassandra Haylett
ECCPASA | (716) 831-2298 | chaylett@eccpasa.org
or visit us online at www.eccpasa.org

Welcome New Staff

ECCPASA would like to welcome a few new staff members to our team: Shaun Garvey, Cassandra Haylett, and Carly Henry.

Shaun Garvey joined ECCPASA earlier this summer as a new addition to our Student Assistance Prevention Counseling Program. Shaun has a B.A. in Sociology from the University at Buffalo. He previously worked as a case manager at Transitional Services, a mental health agency; and as a program manager for the Alcohol and Drug Dependency Services (ADDS), serving a unique population of homeless youth who suffered from addiction. After ADDS closed their doors, Shaun was hired to join the ECCPASA team where he is currently working with middle and high school students throughout Erie County.

Cassandra Haylett started with us in late summer as the new Administrative Assistant for the agency. She was brought on to replace our long-time Administrative Assistant, Shirley Liddle, who retired in September. Cassandra is a quick learner and has been a wonderful addition to our office.

Carly Henry also joined our team at the end of the summer. She recently graduated with her Masters in Social Work. Carly will be working with the Student Assistance Prevention Counseling Program, providing counseling and early intervention to students; as well as serving as a Prevention Educator, facilitating various programs in schools around Erie County.
On October 21st ECCPASA staff and Interim Executive Director, Robin Mann, held our Annual Meeting at Templeton Landing to celebrate 67 years of service! Many friends and colleagues of the agency came out to join us and support our efforts. We had an excellent turnout and it was great to see so many familiar faces.

This year, our Keynote Speaker was Susan Green, LCSW. Ms. Green is a Clinical Associate Professor and Co-director of the Institute on Trauma and Trauma-informed Care at the University at Buffalo. She spoke to the audience about recognizing trauma, effectively working with those who have experienced trauma in their lives, and also self-care for practitioners. She was very interesting to listen to, and really engaged the audience. We were happy to have her as this year’s keynote speaker.

Also, as per tradition, ECCPASA handed out awards to a few select, deserving individuals during the luncheon:

The **Community Partnership Award** was given to the One Island, One Team Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Grand Island. The Coalition was awarded for their continued efforts to make the community of Grand Island a safer place to live, work, learn, and play.

The **William C. MacVicar Memorial Award** was presented to Assunta Ventresca, Director of Health Related Services, Buffalo Public Schools. Mrs. Ventresca received this award due to her dedication and support to improve the wellbeing of Buffalo Public School students.

Finally, the **Board Recognition Award** was awarded to Andrea J. Wanat, previous Executive Director of ECCPASA. The ECCPASA Board wanted to recognize Andrea’s many years of outstanding service and leadership as the agency’s Executive Director.

ECCPASA looks forward to continuing our partnerships throughout the community, and serving Erie County in 2016. Thank you again to all of those who support our efforts!

Thank you for all of your support!
New York State is set to roll out their medical marijuana program in January. Here’s what you need to know:

According to the state’s health department website, New York’s Medical Marijuana Program is set to begin in early January 2016. It will allow patients who suffer from certain serious conditions to become certified by their physicians to receive marijuana for medical purposes.

**Approved Medical Conditions:**
- Approved “serious, severe, debilitating, or life threatening” conditions include: cancer, HIV infection or AIDS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis, spinal cord injury with spasticity, epilepsy, inflammatory bowel disease, neuropathy, and Huntington’s disease.
- Approved associated or complicating conditions are cachexia or wasting syndrome, severe or chronic pain, severe nausea, seizures, or severe or persistent muscle spasms.

**Physician Regulations:**
- Before being able to certify patients to receive the drug, physicians must first complete a four-hour course that is approved by the New York State Department of Health, and must register with the Department.
- Physicians must also consult the New York State Prescription Monitoring Program Registry prior to issuing a certification to a patient for medical marijuana.

**Patient Regulations:**
- Patients who become certified by their doctors must then apply to the NYS Department of Health to obtain a registry identification card.
- During the patient registration process, certified patients may designate up to two caregivers, who must also register with the NYS Department of Health to obtain and administer medical marijuana products on behalf of the patient.

**Registered Manufacturing Organizations:**
- Registrations issued by the NYS Department of Health are valid for a period of two years.
- Each registered organization may initially produce up to five brands of medical marijuana products with prior approval from the Department.
- Of the five brands, at least one brand must have a low tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) content and high cannabidiol (CBD) content and at least one brand must have approximate equal amounts of THC and CBD.
- Each registered organization may have up to four dispensing facilities, owned and operated by the registered organization.
- Registered organizations may only manufacture medical marijuana products in approved forms: liquid or oil (administered orally) or sublingual (under the tongue) or for vaporization, and capsules for oral administration.

*The Compassionate Care Act clearly states that medical use of marijuana DOES NOT include smoking.*

**Dispensing and Quality Control:**
- Final medical marijuana products are required to go through laboratory testing to test for contaminants and ensures product consistency.
- Dispensing facilities must report dispensing data to the New York State Prescription Monitoring Program Registry and consult the registry prior to dispensing approved medical marijuana products to certified patients or their designated caregivers.
- The NYS Department of Health retains the authority to revoke registrations of registered organizations that fail to meet New York State’s regulatory requirements at any time.

Source: New York State Department of Health www.health.ny.gov
In Remembrance of Laura Elliott-Engel

It is with great sadness that we share the loss of a very special member of the prevention, treatment, and recovery field. Laura Elliott-Engel, Executive Director of the Council on Addiction Recovery Services (CAReS), passed away in early November.

Laura served for almost 14 years as the Director of CAReS and did wonderful things for both the agency and the field of prevention, treatment, and recovery. She was a pioneer in the addiction and recovery movement in NYS. She was a founding member, and served as president of FOR-NY (Friends Of Recovery). She also served on the Council on Addictions of New York State (CANYS) as an active leader for many years. Laura was so passionate about this work because she herself struggled with addiction. She recently celebrated 40 years of recovery before her passing.

Laura’s kind heart and her passion for the field will be greatly missed by many.

Project CHOICES is a FREE, two (2) session program designed to assist women in making healthier choices related to alcohol, sex, and birth control.

If you are a woman between the ages of 14 and 44, you may be eligible to participate.

Interested in becoming a possible candidate? Apply at www.UMakeTheChoice.com or call us at 716-831-2298.

Eligible candidates* will receive $30 in gift cards when they have completed the Project CHOICES program.

Learn how to live a healthy lifestyle with Project CHOICES

Project CHOICES is funded by The Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation.
ERIE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THE PREVENTION OF ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE, INC.

The Erie County Council for the Prevention of Alcohol and Substance Abuse will deliver research driven education, prevention, intervention programs and services to promote and support the health and wellness of individuals, families and communities by focusing on solutions to alcohol and other drug misuse, addiction and unhealthy behaviors.

ECCPASA will provide leadership to fight the stigma associated with addiction through public education, policy awareness, liaison with health professionals and recovering communities, by providing objective information, referral, and linkages to those in need.

Support ECCPASA

As we continue to serve the community, please become an official “supporter” of our mission!

Your tax deductible contribution can be made at any time of the year:

☐ $10.00  ☐ $50.00  ☐ $100.00
☐ $25.00  ☐ $75.00  ☐ Other $__________________

Name:__________________________________________
Address:________________________________________
Phone:__________________________________________
Email:__________________________________________

Thank you for supporting the ECCPASA community efforts!

Please mail your tax deductible contribution to: ECCPASA, 1625 Hertel Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14216

Under contract with the Erie County Department of Mental Health. Funded by the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, school districts and municipalities throughout Erie County, individuals, corporations and community service organizations. Member agency of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County.