



PREVENTION CONNECTION

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about."
Margaret J. Wheatley



COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

by Ally Bergmann

Life is pretty great north of the Manatee River. We're a bit different from the rest of Manatee County and anyone who has been here for any length of time can tell you that. It is a special, diverse place with a long history of neighbors helping neighbors. North River Prevention Partners is proud to serve our community by providing substance abuse prevention services specifically for the folks that live and work here.

One of the ways we aim to serve is by providing our local youth opportunities to engage with our community's civic, business, government, and education leaders through the new North River Youth Coalition (NRYC) for teens 14-18 years old. NRYC members will develop leadership and communication skills while providing a youth perspective on important issues that affect us all. They can also earn valuable volunteer service hours and positively influence their peers and community. Meetings will start soon, so be on the lookout for those dates.

Our mission is to promote the health and safety of individuals across the lifespan, and we look forward to being a primary prevention resource for everyone who lives, works, and goes to school here in the North River communities!

Social Media 1st Qtr. Stats

Facebook page reach up 144%
Instagram page reach up 484%
FB & IG PSA views: 14.8K
YouTube PSA views: 392
Followers: 384

We helped Manatee County kids find confidence, meet new friends, see old friends, gain a new perspective with some silly goggles, try things they never thought they would, and open up in ways they never expected.



**Youth in Action:
Mid-year 3/27/21**

Collaboration With: Drug Free Manatee, Centerstone, Healthy Teens Coalition, Hanley Foundation, DaySpring, Common Ground & Desert Blooming Yoga

"Synergy – the bonus that is achieved when things work together harmoniously." Mark Twain

NR Students Step Up

by Kristin Olsen

In January, seven students from Palmetto High School joined together to take a stand against youth vaping. Riley, Chris, Myles, Sydney, Reagan, Holly and Cristina worked with Director, Brad Bryan from Brad!Bryan Multimedia, Inc. to share their personal reasons for not vaping.

In February, eleven students from Parrish Community High School joined together to take a stand against underage drinking. Kendall, Zoe, David, Diego, Jeffery, Adde, Liam, Jules, Makayla, Christian and Lexi gave up a Friday night to honor a fellow student, Mikeal Steele, and spread the word that it's cool to be alcohol free.

Also this year, twelve students from Manatee School for the Arts, under the direction of Dr. Ruby Zickafoose, worked together to create an important message about being a friend to peers who could be experiencing mental health issues. The students: Natalie, Sterphonie, Kalyna, Kristine, Skylar, William, Taylor, Adrian, Gianni, Abrielle, Jacob and Danelly choreographed and performed their beautifully unique PSA.

All three PSAs have been shared on our social media accounts: FaceBook, Instagram and YouTube. Additionally, they are being shown via Spectrum platforms, for two-week flights from March through December 2021 and at two local theatres, beginning in May.

On another note, to help promote North River Prevention Partners and all the outstanding work we're doing in the community, we've created a hashtag...

#nrppmanatee



#novape



#pchs



#pchs



#bullsagainstdrunkdriving



#beafriend



#msa

