

the legalization of marijuana according to the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML). Do you know where SC stands on the issue?

- Step 1: Legalization of Industrial Hemp and Cultivation (Passed 6/2/14, 5/4/2017)
- Step 2: Legalization of Cannabidiol (CBD Oil) for Medical Purposes (Passed 6/2/14)
- Step 3: Legalization of Medical Marijuana (Stalled Spring 2015; Named Compassionate Care Act)
- Step 4: Decriminalization (Stalled Spring 2015)
- Step 5: Legalization of Recreational Use

Are you aware of the differences in today's marijuana and the marijuana of the 60s and 70s? If you answered "no" to any of these questions, the EHC can provide the latest information. We are connected to the SC Blunt Truth Task Force. Check out their website at <http://thebluntruthsc.com>.

Upcoming Events

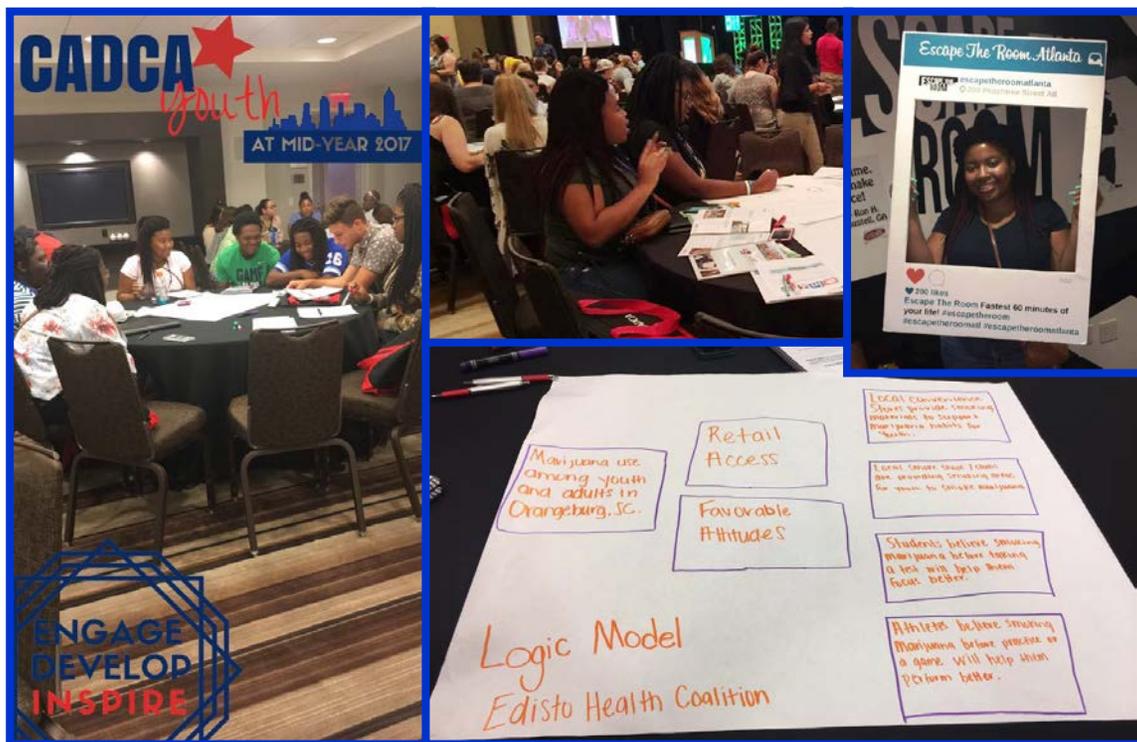
- A marijuana training of trainers is coming soon. It will be a one-day training offered on two separate dates (11/2 and 11/3) for those who think they might be interested in participating and are willing to educate the community.
- Escape Room (adult coalition members) – Chance to network, improve communication, enhance problem-solving abilities and best of all, bonding with other coalition members in a fun environment. Plans are in the works now.
- Alcohol Prevention – Football posters and stress relievers available upon request for your school's games.
- National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse's "Family Day", September 25, 2017. Have your students or congregation take pictures of their family eating dinner together on that day and offer incentives for participation. <http://casafamilyday.org/familyday>
- Red Ribbon Week will be held October 23 -31st, 2017. They are offering a YOLO -Be Drug-Free contest. <http://redribbon.org/contest>
- Communities That Care Survey (CTC) Spring 2018. Thank you to all the schools that participated in 2016. We hope that you will participate in 2018. More information will be coming out soon.



If you have youth that you are concerned about, The William J McCord Adolescent Treatment Center is available to help. The McCord Center is a provider of high quality care to children and adolescents in Bamberg, Calhoun, and Orangeburg counties. The child/adolescent does not have to be using substances to receive outpatient treatment services. The McCord staff are also trained to work with children and adolescents with behavioral issues. Referrals are accepted from anyone involved with the child/adolescent including, but not limited to, schools, physicians, families and self-referrals. Individuals ages 9 and older are eligible for outpatient services. If you would like more information about outpatient services or want to make a referral, please contact Melinda Lamprecht at 534-2328 at Ext. 147 or Brittany Bishop at Ext. 143.

CADCA'S Youth Leadership Conference

Five of our youth squad members representing five different area high schools learned valuable planning skills associated with the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) in the Youth Leadership track of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America's Mid-Year conference, July 23-27, 2017. While at the conference in Atlanta, Georgia, the youth learned to examine their community through data, identify community issues, plan strategies to address those issues, and evaluate their efforts. From all reports, our youth squad members were quite the social butterflies and networked with a large portion of the over 300 youth attending the conference from all over the country. However, it wasn't all work and no play for our youth in Atlanta. Our youth also visited the Atlanta Aquarium and an "Escape Room". Even though they did not "Escape" the "Apartment" because of a missed key in the oven, they did learn a lot about communication, problem-solving and teamwork. The youth were chaperoned by our coalition member and Javon's mother, Mrs. Cynthia Middleton, and our Community Outreach Coordinator, Tashena Livingston. The trip was sponsored by the Edisto Health Coalition (EHC), the Tri-County Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (TCCADA) and the South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (SCDAODAS). Be sure to like The Edisto Health Coalition's Facebook and see all the pictures and videos from their trip. For those who don't have access, a sampling of the activities is presented below.



If you know one of these youth or attend the same school or church, be sure to ask them about their Atlanta trip. Next year's destination for our Youth Squad is Orlando, Florida in July of 2018.

Representing Orangeburg and Calhoun counties at the CADCA Mid-Year Conference

Jala Gilmore – Hunter-Kinard-Tyler High School
Tashayla Fields – Calhoun County High School
Destiny Stroman – Edisto High School
Javon Robinson – High School for Health Professions
Javar Jamison – Branchville High School

HIGHLIGHT



To close out our first year with the EHC's newly developed Youth Squad, the EHC and the TCCADA sponsored a recognition and awards dinner for our youth and their families at the Orangeburg Country Club. Tashena Livingston, our Community Outreach Coordinator and Youth Squad Advisor, did an excellent job in coordinating this event. She focused on the accomplishments of the youth squad at the event and had each one speak about the reason they joined the coalition, what made them stay a part of the coalition, trainings/conferences they've attended, and what they have gained from being a part of the Squad. We would also like to acknowledge Cynthia Middleton, coalition member and mother of one of our Squad members for her time and contributions to our Youth Squad. Thanks to all the youth for being a part of this coalition and their parents, as well, for allowing them to be a part of our coalition. For their referrals and support in this endeavor, we also thank the participating schools and their administration.

Recruiting

This is a reminder that the EHC is recruiting young people for the 2017-2018 school year for the Youth Squad. Our lofty goal is to have at least two representatives from each of our area high schools serve on the youth sector of our coalition. High school students in grades 9-11 are preferred. Late middle school students will be considered on an individual basis. While we would like school referrals, community referrals are also welcome. Here are some altruistic reasons that youth should serve:

- *Want to make a better, safer community
- *Want to learn about the dangers of alcohol and other drugs
- *Want to prevent the loss of their peers to alcohol or other drugs
- *Want to encourage youth from our area to be successful in life
- *Want to be a positive influence in their school

While these reasons are noble and represent a good cause, what can the Youth Squad do for the individual student? It can:

- *Provide community service hours
- *Improve their resume and college appeal
- *Introduce them to new people their age both locally and nationally
- *Provide training in leadership and strategic planning
- *Give experience in working in a healthcare related field
- *Provide new experiences through field trips
- *Provide leadership training at CAROWINDS
- *Provide a week long national summer leadership training in ORLANDO
- *and if that's not enough - a free t-shirt and food!

So if you know a teen between the ages of 15 and 17 who may be interested, contact us for an application and more information.

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