

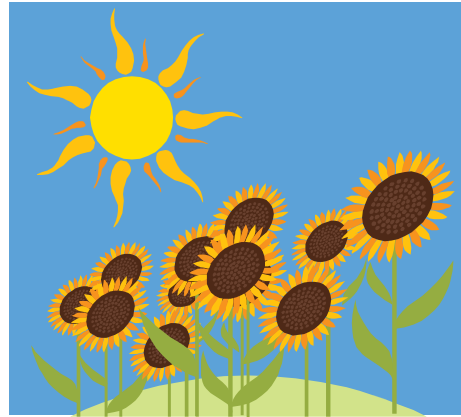
Coordinator's Update August

Events and News:

The SYNAR checks completed in July were all successful! None of the vendors sold to the underage buyer. **SYNAR is an amendment enacted by congress aimed at decreasing access to tobacco products to individuals under the age of 18. The goal of this amendment is to reduce the number of successful illegal purchases by minors to no more than 20 percent of attempted buys by minors in each State within a negotiated time period.

The Family Anonymous Support Group is aimed to help program participants cope with a loved one's addiction to alcohol or drugs. The group takes place on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at the Ionia County Health Department. Attendance numbers are slowly growing week to week.

Attended the Migrant Council Fiesta event and distributed information on substance abuse in both Spanish in English to over 100 families.



Meetings and Such:

- Met with Joel at Mid South for FY 09/10 Implementation Plan resubmission clarification.
- Attend the State of Michigan Social Marketing / Social Norms Marketing training. Overview of how to assist with population level change and learned how to: Write a plan in accordance with a strategy fidelity index, Consider culture in planning, message development and implementation, Write focus group questions, Recruit participants, Conduct a focus group, Incorporate feedback
- Attend the Community Partnership training at the ISD. Learned what service learning is and examples of numerous projects to meet community needs, ideas for getting started with a class and suggestions for building a strong partnership between our organization and the schools.

Ionia County Substance Abuse Initiative