

Youth Programs
Monthly Report April 2006
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Operation Right Choice



- The students put together a short skit in which they had to incorporate the use of refusal skills they were taught in the lecture on how to say “No!” when offered tobacco.
- The students were presented with several demonstrations of the dangerous effects of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco. Several demonstrations included pig lungs, Mr. Gross Mouth, Mr. Dip Lip, Smoking Susie, second hand smoke simulator, and the deadly components in cigarettes and smokeless tobacco.

The ORC class at Marcum Terrace is still in process and continues to grow every class. Several recruitment activities have been administered at the Marcum Terrace area in which seven new students attended the ORC class Project Towards No Tobacco Use. In addition, the recruitment of students has led to two new sites for the ORC class to be taught. On April 13, the first session of ORC was held at the Boys and Girls Club located in Guyandotte, and on April 14, the first session of ORC was held at the A.D. Lewis Center located across the street from the Northcott community. Activities that have been incorporated into the tobacco prevention curriculum include the following:



- In celebration of spring, the students decided to plant small flowers in pots. This “green thumb” activity was incorporated into the ORC class because plants release fresh oxygen that can help eliminate tobacco smoke contamination in their homes (the majority of students’ parents smoke in the home).
- The students were given a poster-size sheet of paper along with markers, crayons, and other craft material and given the assignment of creating a tobacco prevention poster that would

be hung on the wall of the classroom. The students were very creative in designing their posters. They incorporated rhyming, drawings, and word play into their posters along with important messages about the dangers of tobacco use.

ArtWorks



The last meeting of this session of ArtWorks was held on April 1. The students put together a special theatrical presentation of their own dramatic pieces. The cluster of skits was entitled "All the World's a Stage!" The next ArtWorks session will be this summer which is scheduled for July 24- August 4, 2006.

The students who participated in the Artworks project were treated to a day of bowling and lunch at Chic-Fil-A lunch on April 20.



RAZE

Russell Bailey, Jaytese Westmoreland, Rosetta Tillet, and Cynthia Nicholson attended and participated at the Ebenezer Medical Outreach community health fair where a RAZE tent was set up. The students presented several demonstrations in an attempt to raise awareness about the dangers of tobacco use.

Middle School Teen Institute

ORC students are providing leadership and are busy in the planning of the next Middle School Teen Institute camp, which is scheduled for June 1-3, 2006. Bi-monthly meetings are held to share ideas and decide on issues such as menu, decorations, theme, t-shirt design, workshop titles and schedule for the event. The theme for this TI is "RU LOST? Lending Others Support Today."

Students Provide Regional Leadership Role



Brothers, Joseph and Russell Bailey, ORC graduates and students at Huntington High School, are busy planning their community service projects. Both were selected as AppalYouth Fellows through the Sojourner's Care Network and each was awarded a \$2500 Service Learning grant.

Joseph is focusing his project on Youth Violence by hosting a Teen Issues Day on May 20 in Ritter Park. This day will be the one-year anniversary of the four teens being murdered in Huntington.

Russell is focusing his project on tobacco prevention and teaches a tobacco prevention workshop each week at the

Boys and Girls Club in east Huntington. Both students are working with adult mentor Tim White.

ORC Students To Speak At State Conference

Russell Bailey, Whitney Hodges, and Jaytese Westmoreland, and adult advisor, Tim White, attended the Sojourner's Care Network Youth Leaders Retreat which was held in Charleston, WV on April 7 & 8.

These three teens along with teens from Mingo County, WV will facilitate two workshops at the WV Faces of Leadership Conference in July. They will be facilitating a workshop on Adultism and one on Youth Leadership and community service.



While at the conference in April, they demonstrated a few of the props they use when teaching others about the dangers associated with tobacco use.

