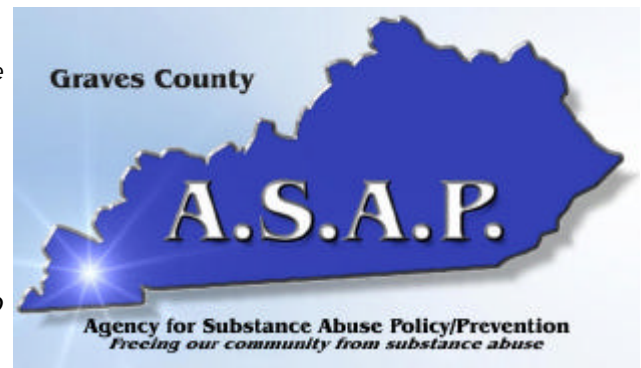


Our Vision - Freeing our community from substance abuse

Our Mission - The Graves County Agency for Substance Abuse Policy board will help our community be free of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD) by helping change the culture that approves of and supports ATOD. This will be accomplished by working with concerned community partners to educate, treat, and prevent ATOD use.

www.gcasap.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
October 21, 2013

Contact: Joseph Williams
Joseph@williamscc.org or 270-247-5667

Graves County Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention hires Andrea Elliott Hoskins as its project coordinator



Hoskins

(Mayfield, KY) - The Graves County Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention announced on Monday, Oct. 21, that it has chosen Andrea Elliott Hoskins of Fancy Farm to take on the full-time position of project coordinator. She will begin her duties on Nov. 4.

“We believe Mrs. Hoskins' is the full package,” said Joseph Williams, program director of the ASAP coalition, who directed the coordinator search. “She has passion for drug prevention, a solid work ethic, an ability to make things happen, and a great rapport with both the Mayfield and Graves County school systems as a result of her previous work as a family resource center coordinator with the Graves County Schools.”

He continued, “She will not only coordinate the coalition’s local drug and alcohol prevention initiatives in the community, but she also will work with both school systems to ensure that teachers have the tools and knowledge necessary to weave drug and alcohol prevention messages into the curriculum on a regular basis.”

Hoskins' position has been made possible through a federal grant from the Drug Free Communities support program for the next five years, totaling some \$625,000. Those funds are earmarked for involving and engaging the local community to prevent substance use among youth.

In her cover letter she stated, "I am very passionate about making a difference in the lives of others and our community as a whole. I would be truly humbled and excited to have the opportunity to be a part of this collaborative effort to reduce the use of harmful substances in our youth and community."

During her interview for the position she stated, "I think the action plans of the coalition are excellent and I would be so grateful to have this opportunity to make a difference in Mayfield and Graves County."

"The Graves County Agency for Substance Abuse Policy/Prevention has been meeting since the summer of 2005," Williams noted. "We have been funded in the past from a small grant from the state of Kentucky, resulting from the Tobacco Settlement Funds. A couple of our recent successes are advocating for the synthetic drug ordinance in the city and county and the smoking ordinance for certain public places in the city of Mayfield."

"The key to preventing substance abuse is harnessing the talents, resources, and interests of all segments of our local communities," said Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration administrator Pamela S. Hyde. "America's families, schools, places of worship, healthcare

providers, community centers, and other civic organizations all play an essential role in helping our youth avoid illicit substance use. SAMHSA's partnership with the Office of National Drug Control Policy in supporting community coalitions has proven effective in uniting communities to develop effective approaches for fostering drug-free environments for young people across our nation."

The goals of the coalition are: "(1) to establish and strengthen collaboration among Graves County ASAP's partner-organizations in support of the community's effort to prevent and reduce youth substance use; and (2) to reduce substance use among youth in Mayfield and Graves County and (3) over time to reduce substance abuse among adults by addressing the issues in our community that increase substance abuse and promoting factors that reduce substance abuse."

The coalition plans to achieve its goals by implementing a comprehensive prevention strategy with parents, youth, and community partners.

The DFC Program was created by the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997 and reauthorized by Congress in 2001 and 2006. Since 1998, ONDCP has awarded nearly 2,000 DFC grants to local communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, Palau, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

To learn more about the Graves County Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention, visit the organization's website at www.gcasap.org.