



The National Youth Leadership Initiative offers participating youth the following benefits:

- Receive leadership training in nationally recognized leadership training initiative
- Volunteer hours
- Experience for resume
- College portfolio material
- Opportunities to travel
- Learn how to perform a Community Assessment
- Create and implement community-based plans:
 - Logic Model
 - Action Plan
 - Evaluation Plan
 - Sustainability Plan
- Free t-shirts and other program materials
- Take part in local community coalition initiatives
- Document your personal perspective of your community (Photovoice)
- Training for future job opportunities
- Learn how to use various media outlets to move an audience to act or think differently.

Opportunity to let your VOICE be HEARD!



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT

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FUNDED BY

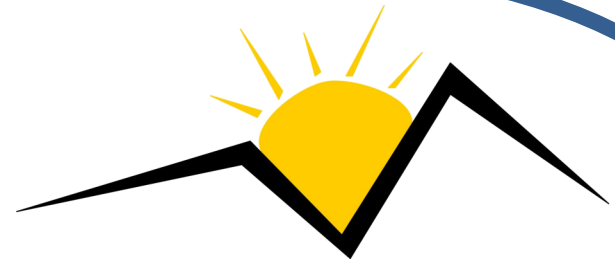


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MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



NATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE





National Youth Leadership Initiative

WEST VIRGINIA



What is it?

Community Connections, in partnership with CADCA (Community Anti-Dug Coalitions of America), and the National Coalition Institute, are collaborating together to implement the first-ever statewide collaboration of CADCA's prestigious National Youth Leadership Initiative (NYLI). This program targets youth in 8th through 11th grades.

The project will provide grass roots community coalitions with a new and innovative strategy to develop a workforce dedicated to solving substance abuse problems in their community. Funds will be used to extensively educate local coalitions about the problems associated with alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by sending them through **extensive national and statewide training opportunities** to become proficient in the nationally recognized SPF (Strategic Prevention Framework) process. Through this combination of classroom instruction and web-based distance learning, youth and leaders throughout the state will participate in the design, implementation, and evaluation of action strategies to address major community problems, including substance abuse and crime. This will ultimately result in changed community norms and environments to achieve population level reductions in drug use and crime.

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As a result, youth will become more integrated into the fabric of communities across WV as the next generation of substance abuse and crime prevention leaders.

Collaboration

West Virginia's National Youth Leadership Initiative is the only one of its kind anywhere in the United States. This pilot program will serve as the model for other states to follow and will be successful by having all community sectors work together.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS ▪ The program will require students to work on various assignments at home during the evenings and on weekends. Parents/guardians should understand the time commitment of the Initiative and provide needed support to participating youth.

SCHOOL SYSTEM ▪ The county school system will work with the participating coalitions and mentors to provide leniency in attendance policies in regard to this exceptional educational opportunity. Youth participating in the program will receive education as an extremely high level and will bring this knowledge back to his/her community and school environment. Youth will be deemed leaders in the science of prevention and will be trained on ways to be a leader in other school based prevention programs such as RAZE or SADD.

COALITION LEADERS ▪ Leaders of local coalitions will serve as mentors to youth participants and will assist in providing technical assistance and support on various projects. Coalition leaders will work one-on-one with students and will ensure that all needed materials are provided.

Time Commitment

A combination of face-to-face instruction, online coursework, web-based distance learning and telephone technical assistance will be used for individual and group skills development, monitoring, documentation, accountability, evaluation and communication.

FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS

November 4-7, 2010 Statewide
April 7-10, 2011 Northern Region Only
April 14-17, 2011 Southern Region Only
September 15-18, 2011 Statewide

In addition, select individuals will have the opportunity to travel to the CADCA National Forum and CADCA Midyear conferences.



“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA