



Drug Demand Reduction Quarterly Newsletter

Special points of interest:

The drug testing program is the single best deterrent against illegal drug use among Active Duty and Civilian members of the military. In addition to drug testing, our program provides outreach services to: dependents, retirees, & school-aged children. Our program is available for Commander Calls and community events, both on and off base. DDR has an open door policy, please stop by any time.



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Upcoming Events

2 October Fun Run with the Fire Department

6 October Prevention Activity at the Youth Center

20 October HeartLink & Prevention Activity at the Youth Center

21 October Warrior Welcome & Base Library Story Time

25 October Red Ribbon Kick-Off @ the Main Gate

26-29 October Red Ribbon Week School Presentations

29 October - Fall Costume/"Say Boo to Drugs" Dance @ the Youth Center

31 October - "Spooky Town" with the Altus Police Department

6 November - Prescription Drug Take Back Event @ the SFS Base Housing Substation



Celebrate Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week is the nation's oldest and largest drug prevention program, reaching millions of Americans during the last week of October every year.

By wearing red ribbons and participating in community anti-drug events, young people pledge to live a drug-free life and pay tribute to DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena.

Special Agent Kiki Camarena:

- Special Agent Camarena was an 11-year veteran of the DEA assigned to the Guadalajara, Mexico, office where he was on the trail of the country's biggest marijuana and cocaine traffickers. In 1985, he was extremely close to unlocking a multi-billion dollar drug pipeline.
- On February 7, 1985, he was kidnapped, brutally tortured, and murdered by Mexican drug traffickers. His tragic death opened the eyes of many Americans to the dangers of drugs and the international scope of the drug trade.

Local Red Ribbon Celebrations

The Drug Demand Reduction Program (DDR) is currently distributing Red Ribbons to all Jackson County Public Schools. DDR collaborates with the Jackson County Community Health Action Committee, Altus PD, and Altus AFB Security Forces to provide drug awareness presentations to local 3rd-6th graders during Red Ribbon Week (23-31 October). Students in grades pre-k to 2nd grade will be visited by McGruff the Crime Dog.

Red Ribbons will also be distributed to all Active Duty members and Civilian Employees at Altus AFB.

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Donna Butte delivering Red Ribbons to Sheryl James, Rivers Elementary School Counselor.



National Survey Reveals Increases in Substance Use From 2008 to 2009

The use of illicit drugs among Americans increased between 2008 and 2009 according to a national survey conducted by SAMHSA. The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) shows that the overall rate of current illicit drug use in the United States rose from 8.0 percent of the population age 12 and older in 2008 to 8.7 percent in 2009. This rise in overall drug use was driven in large part by increases in marijuana use.

The study also shows that the nonmedical use of prescription drugs rose from 2.5 percent of the population in 2008 to 2.8 percent in 2009. Additionally, the estimated number of past-month Ecstasy users rose from 555,000 in 2008 to 760,000 in 2009, and the number of methamphetamine users rose from 314,000 to 502,000 during that period.

"These results are a wake up call to the Nation," said SAMHSA Administrator Pamela S. Hyde, J.D. "Our strategies of the past appear to have stalled out with 'Generation Next.' Parents and caregivers, teachers, coaches, faith and community leaders, must find credible new ways to communicate with our youth about the dangers of substance abuse."

"Today's findings are disappointing, but not surprising, because eroding attitudes and perceptions of harm about drug use over the past 2 years have served as warning signs for exactly what we see today," said Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Gil Kerlikowske. "Fortunately, this administration's National Drug Control Strategy, with its focus on prevention, treatment, smart law enforcement, and support for those in recovery, highlights the right tools to reduce drug use and its consequences."

But our efforts must be reinforced and supported by the messages kids get from their parents. Past-month marijuana use was much less prevalent among youth who perceived strong parental disapproval for trying marijuana or hashish once or twice than among those who did not—4.8 percent versus 31.3 percent, respectively."

To read more , please visit:

<http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1009152021.aspx>

6 NOVEMBER PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK EVENT

SFS BASE HOUSING SUBSTATION

Do you have expired and/or unused prescription drugs in your medicine cabinet?

Are you unsure of how to dispose of prescriptions?

Do you worry about children finding unused medications?

Visit us on 6 November, from 0900-1400 at the SFS Base Housing Substation.

Local Drug Task Force Agents will be on hand to collect your unwanted prescriptions.



Katie Adkins teaching youth how drugs affect neurotransmission. DDR staff facilitated games, including telephone, to demonstrate the negative effects drugs have on brain functions.