

Kicking off Kick-Butts Day



DeSoto County TFP Members & SWAT Youth Conduct a Tobacco Litter Clean Up at McSwain Park in Honor of Kick Butts Day

March 20, 2019

In June of 2016, after a lot of hard work and negotiating, our City Council decided to implement a tobacco free zones policy at our parks and recreational facilities. The policy declared all areas that were directly intended for children/youth to be tobacco free, including smokeless tobacco and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems.

After implementation, and to help make visitors aware of the policy, The Tobacco Free Partnership of DeSoto County purchased signs free of cost to the City of Arcadia which are in now place at all of the Tobacco Free Zones.

On March 13th, in honor of Kick Butts Day and to show our appreciation to the City of Arcadia for adopting this policy, members of our TFP and SWAT spent their spring break conducting a tobacco litter clean up. Members first started by picking up tobacco related litter inside the playground and splash pad area (which is considered a tobacco free zone). There were only 3 cigarette butts total found inside this area, however, a decent amount of tobacco litter was pick up in the reminder of the park, which is outside of the tobacco free zone, where signage is not in place.

SWAT & DFy youth proudly display the drastic decrease in tobacco litter since the last park clean up. (Pictured left to right: Jayden Brown, Cherry Nicklow, Jo Duke (holding the large amount of tobacco littler collected before there was a policy in place), Eva Bishop (displaying the small bag of litter from this year's clean up), Genesis Clifton, and Savannah Tuttle)

310 W Whidden Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

Telephone: (863) 993-1333, Ext. 345

Asya Shine, Coalition Coordinator

Asyashine.dfdc@gmail.com ~ www.drugfreedesoto.com



Caption 1: SWAT Youth and Tobacco Prevention Specialist proudly pose by one of the Tobacco Free Zones Signs that is helping keep tobacco away from our children.

Caption 2: SWAT and TFP Members do their part to keep our park and splash pad free of tobacco litter.

Caption 3: SWAT Members Eva Bishop and Cherry Nicklow enjoy fresh clean air and a little downtime on the Tobacco Free Playground.

310 W Whidden Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

Telephone: (863) 993-1333, Ext. 345

Asya Shine, Coalition Coordinator

Asyashine.dfdc@gmail.com ~ www.drugfreedesoto.com

Spring Break Prevention Camp

March 11 – 14, 2019

Drug Free DeSoto Coalition and QuitDoc hosted a youth Spring Break Prevention Camp.

Youth received presentations from local experts on the dangers of alcohol and tobacco; while also learning about the criminal justice system. Students also had a chance to give back to the community by helping with a local community service project.

Day 1 – Community Service Day

Students visited Trinity United Methodist Church to help feed the homeless.



310 W Whidden Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

Telephone: (863) 993-1333, Ext. 345

Asya Shine, Coalition Coordinator

Asyashine.dfcd@gmail.com ~ www.drugfreedesoto.com

Day 2 – Alcohol Education Day

Students were introduced to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) and the Alcohol Literacy Challenge from the Hanley Foundation. They also got to hear from a local resident who was involved in a drunk driving accident.



Day 3 – Tobacco Education Day



310 W Whidden Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

Telephone: (863) 993-1333, Ext. 345

Asya Shine, Coalition Coordinator

Asyashine.dfcd@gmail.com ~ www.drugfreedesoto.com

Day 4 – Criminal Justice Day

Students visited with the local Sheriff's Office to learn more about the services they provide and the local jail. They also visited the Courthouse to have a talk with Judge Brewer.



310 W Whidden Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

Telephone: (863) 993-1333, Ext. 345

Asya Shine, Coalition Coordinator

Asyashine.dfdc@gmail.com ~ www.drugfreedesoto.com

Members of the Tobacco Free Partnership and DeSoto Memorial Hospital Encourage Community Members to 'Love Their Health'

February 27, 2019

February is *Love Your Heart* month, but at DeSoto Memorial Hospital, it is taken just a step further. DMH encourages everyone to truly value their bodies and 'Love Your Health'. In true DMH spirit, heart health month is celebrated by inviting all our health care partners in for a health fair. This is a great way for community members and employees to network with the various local health organizations to become aware of what they have to offer.

In our efforts to raise awareness about the dangers of tobacco use and increase cessation, members of the Tobacco Free Partnership of Desoto County attended the event held in the main hallway at DeSoto Memorial Hospital on February 27, 2019. In addition to the 13 other vendors in attendance, over 80 community members and DMH staff were educated and encouraged to value their health.



Pictured above: TFP Member and Healthcare Education Specialist at Florida Poison Information Center, Jemima D. Desir, MD, MBA, Community Health Advocate and Tobacco Prevention Specialist, Jodie DeLoach, and TFP Member Asya Shine, Drug Free DeSoto Coalition Coordinator.

310 W Whidden Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

Telephone: (863) 993-1333, Ext. 345

Asya Shine, Coalition Coordinator

Asyashine.dfcd@gmail.com ~ www.drugfreedesoto.com



Lunch & Learn

Hosted by Drug Free Desoto Coalition

Join us as we learn of the importance of safe drug disposal. The Poison Center will also discuss supplements, herbals, and essential oils and how they can interfere with RX drug usage.

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Dr. Desir shared her knowledge with guests on poison control matters. We learned about RX drug disposal and usage, as well as helpful information on supplements, herbals, and essential oils.

THANK YOU, DR. DESIR!

310 W Whidden Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

Telephone: (863) 993-1333, Ext. 345

Asya Shine, Coalition Coordinator

Asyashine.dfdc@gmail.com ~ www.drugfreedesoto.com

Upcoming Events

Quarterly Meeting

Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon
May 15, 2019
12:00pm
DeSoto Memorial Hospital
900 N Robert Ave, Arcadia, FL 34266

Drug Free DeSoto, D-Fy Events & Community Events

Project Graduation Mandatory Volunteer Meeting – April 25th @ 6:00pm – DeSoto Middle School

Project Graduation Party May 31, 2019 @ 10:00pm

Drug and Alcohol Resources

College Student's Guide to Avoiding Drug and Alcohol Abuse -

<https://www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/resources/avoiding-substance-abuse/>

Substance Abuse In College - <https://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/substance-abuse-in-college/>

A Student's Guide to Recognizing Disorders, Seeking Help and Promoting Wellness -

<https://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/college-student-mental-health/>

Addiction On College Campuses: Expert Insight and Resources - <https://www.learnpsychology.org/college-campus-addiction-resources/>

[Teen Drug Abuse Statistics and Facts](#)

310 W Whidden Street, Arcadia, FL 34266

Telephone: (863) 993-1333, Ext. 345

Asya Shine, Coalition Coordinator

Asyashine.dfcd@gmail.com ~ www.drugfreedesoto.com