

DRUG FREE QUEEN ANNE'S COALITION

Fourth Annual Report on  
**Adolescent  
Substance Abuse**

*Working Toward an Alcohol/Drug Free  
Community for Youth*



## INTRODUCTION

In September 2003, the Queen Anne's County (QAC) Adolescent Substance Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Treatment Program Comprehensive Assessment report was completed. Several community meetings were held and several hundred copies of the report were distributed. One of the recommendations was to create a "database management system that mined and collated data from all agencies and organizations involved in adolescent substance abuse prevention, intervention and treatment" that fostered accountability. The data needed be transparent, centrally-housed and formalized through an annual report to the citizens of QAC.

Members of the original Teen Task Force formed the Drug-Free Community (DFC) Coalition. In the years to follow, additional members joined the coalition. The DFC Coalition makes recommendations to the Drug and Alcohol Council, who are appointed by the QAC County Commissioners, under the governor's mandate.

## BACKGROUND

The Queen Anne's County Community Partnerships for Children and Families received a grant from the Office of National Drug Control Policy as part of its Drug-Free Communities Support Program. The grant began in FY 2005 and was renewable annually up through FY 2009. This grant supported efforts of the Drug-Free Queen Anne's Community Coalition to (1) reduce substance abuse among youth and (2) improve community mobilization among key substance abuse stakeholder groups in Queen Anne's County.

## IN THIS REPORT

Information in this report shows the community how the school system (Student Assistance Programs) works diligently to prevent youth substance abuse through early identification and referrals for assessments for "at risk" youth. Additionally, we want the community to be aware of the number of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug offenses committed by juveniles. Other juvenile offenses may be indirectly related to alcohol and/or drug abuse, but

are not listed in this publication. For more information, visit the Department of Juvenile Services website at <http://djs.maryland.gov/publications.html> and click on the Annual Statistical Report for the year in question.

Although progress has been made, we still have a lot of work to do as a community to reduce the age of onset of substance use and to prevent alcohol, tobacco, and other drug abuse among our youth. This report presents the progress made on the following key goals of the Drug-Free Queen Anne's Community Coalition:

### Reduce Substance Abuse Among Youth

**Goal 1:** Reduce frequency of past 30-day alcohol, tobacco and other drug use by youth in grades six and up.

**Goal 2:** Increase the age of onset of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among youth.

**Goal 3:** Strengthen the perception that the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by youth is risky and harmful

**Goal 4:** Strengthen perception of peer and adult disapproval of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use.

### Improve Mobilization of Community Groups

**Goal 5:** Increase authentic citizen participation and sector collaboration around the goal of preventing and reducing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among Queen Anne's County's youth.

**Goal 6:** Enhance community mobilization efforts toward delivery of effective substance abuse prevention strategies.

**Goal 7:** Strengthen the ability of Queen Anne's County to understand risk and protective factors specific to youth substance abuse.

**Goal 8:** Strengthen the ability of Queen Anne's County to recognize and emphasize community assets and resources targeted for youth.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are very grateful to Bonham Research and the many agencies for promptly providing their data to create this document. Queen Anne's County is extremely fortunate to have the cooperation of so many. To get involved in the endeavor or to become a member of the coalition, contact Kathy Wright, LCADC, Assistant Director and Prevention Coordinator (410-758-1306 x 304).

Funding for this report was provided by the Drug-Free Communities Support Program, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services).

# Queen Anne’s County Population Demographics<sup>1</sup>

## Population

Population 2007 Estimate . . . . .	46,751
Population 2000 . . . . .	40,563
Population 1990 . . . . .	33,953
Population, percent change, 1990 to 2000 . . . . .	20%
Persons under 5 years old . . . . .	2,741
Persons 5-19 years old . . . . .	9,276
Persons 65 years old and over . . . . .	6,092

## Ethnic Origin

White . . . . .	41,705
Black or African Americans . . . . .	3,790
American Indian and Alaska Native . . . . .	95
Asian . . . . .	451
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	923
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander . . . . .	10
Americans reporting some other race and more than one race . . . . .	520

## Projected Public School Population for 2009-2010<sup>2</sup>

Elementary Schools		Middle Schools		High Schools	
Bayside	491	Centreville	544	QAC	1172
Centreville	548	Matapeake	384	Kent Island	1258
Church Hill	358	Stevensville	509		
Grasonville	449	Sudlersville	344		
Kennard	468				
Kent Island	341				
Matapeake	536				
Sudlersville	384				

<sup>1</sup>Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2007.

<sup>2</sup>Source: Queen Anne’s County Board of Education.



# DRUG-FREE QUEEN ANNE'S COMMUNITY COALITION'S Progress in Reducing Substance Abuse Among Youth

## **Goal 1:** Reduce frequency of use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by youth in Grades 6–12.

In comparing data from the 2004 and 2007 Maryland Adolescent Survey (MAS), the frequency of substance use in Queen Anne's County's youth decreased in most categories. Sixth graders' use of all substances decreased, except for an insignificant increase in cigarette use. Eighth graders decreased use in all substances. In 10th grade, many substances decreased except for liquor, which remained the same. However, 10th grader use of crack and heroin increased. Among 12th grade students, 7 substances decreased in use, but beer/wine/wine coolers use remained unchanged. Yet, marijuana and narcotic use increased slightly.

**What is the Maryland Adolescent Survey?** The Maryland Adolescent Survey (MAS) is an important and mandatory survey (administered every 2 years in QAC Public Schools), which provides information on the nature, extent, and trends in alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use by students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 throughout Maryland. The MAS was not conducted in Maryland public schools in 2006; it was delayed one year and administered in 2007. MAS findings are valid and reliable.

### Percentage of QAC Students Reporting Substance Use in the Last 30 Days

	6th Grade		8th Grade		10th Grade		12th Grade	
	2004	2007	2004	2007	2004	2007	2004	2007
Cigarettes	0.3	0.4	5.9	<b>5.2</b>	20.0	<b>15.7</b>	29.2	<b>26.4</b>
Beer/Wine/Wine Coolers	2.6	<b>0.9</b>	12.8	<b>8.7</b>	39.4	<b>30.9</b>	47.6	47.6
Liquor	0.7	<b>0.4</b>	8.9	<b>6.0</b>	41.3	41.3	45.1	<b>42.3</b>
Marijuana	0.3	<b>0.0</b>	6.2	<b>4.0</b>	19.3	<b>16.5</b>	23.3	23.6
Crack	0.8	<b>0.0</b>	1.7	<b>1.2</b>	3.5	4.7	6.0	<b>3.2</b>
Cocaine	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	1.7	<b>1.2</b>	4.0	<b>3.4</b>	5.4	<b>5.0</b>
Ecstasy	0.3	<b>0.0</b>	1.1	<b>0.8</b>	4.9	<b>4.2</b>	6.1	<b>2.7</b>
Heroin	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	1.0	<b>0.8</b>	1.7	3.4	5.4	<b>3.6</b>
Narcotics	0.0	<b>0.0</b>	1.6	<b>0.8</b>	7.3	<b>5.5</b>	7.7	8.2
Inhalants	1.4	<b>0.4</b>	3.2	<b>0.8</b>	5.8	<b>4.2</b>	3.7	<b>2.3</b>

Bold blue numbers represent a decrease in use from 2004 MAS  
Source: 2004 and 2007 MAS Surveys.

*“Student behavior suggests they are now hearing the message that smoking cigarettes is not OK at any age. However, the message they seem to be getting about alcohol is that drinking alcohol is OK if delayed until the later part of high school. The message on marijuana appears to be in between. If these messages about alcohol and marijuana is NOT what the community intends to send, clearer messages for both students and parents need to be developed and agreed upon.”*

*(Adapted from the Drug-Free Queen Anne's Community Coalition Evaluation Report: FY 2009)*



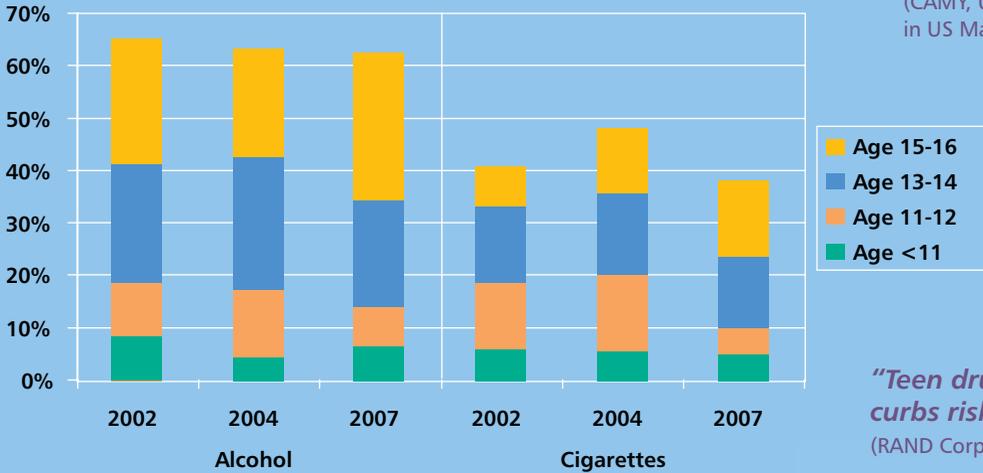
**Goal 2: Increase the “age of onset” of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among youth.**

The “age of onset” increased between 2004 and 2007 for the most frequently abused substances—alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana—and resulted in less ever-use of tobacco and marijuana by the 12th grade.

*“More youth in the U.S. drink alcohol than smoke tobacco or marijuana, making alcohol the drug abused by most American youth.”*

(CAMY, Underage Drinking in US March 2006)

**Age at Which 12th Graders Started Using Alcohol and Cigarettes**



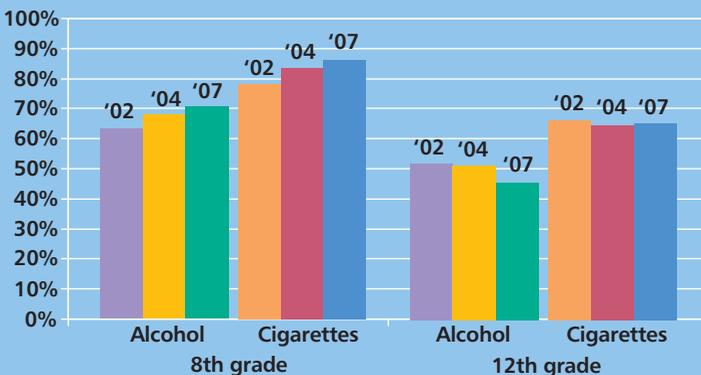
Source: 2002, 2004, and 2007 MAS Surveys.

*“Teen drug education curbs risky sex behavior.”*  
(RAND Corporation)

**Goal 3: Strengthen the perception that the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs by youth is risky and harmful.**

The message about the dangers of smoking cigarettes and using marijuana appears to be heard by both students and parents and is reducing the onset of their use among students at all grade levels. This has resulted in lower ever-use by the time students reach 12th grade.

**Percent Who Believe that Substance Use is Dangerous.**



Source: 2002, 2004, and 2007 MAS Surveys.

*Student Assistance Programs hope to identify youth who are at risk or may be using substances so that we can intervene early before the youth suffers academically.*



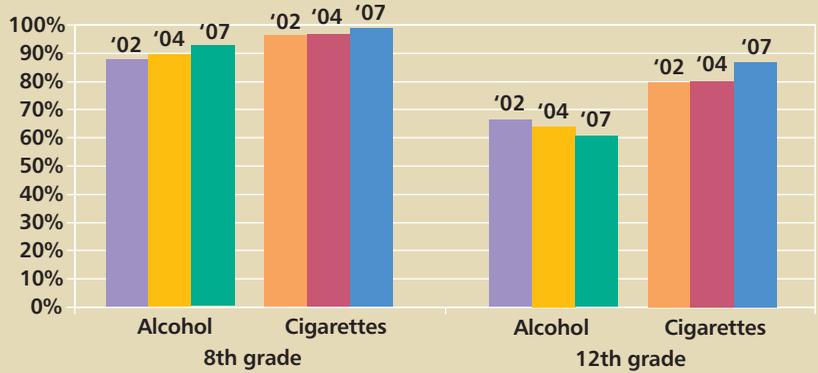
**“While 97% of all youth saw an average of 113 alcohol ads in magazines, 99% of African-American youth saw an average of 150 alcohol ads in national magazines in 2004.”** (The Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth)

**“12- to 17-year-olds abuse prescription drugs more than they abuse ecstasy, crack/cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine combined.”** (PDFA)

**Goal 4: Strengthen the perception of peer and adult disapproval of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use.**

It appears that students are getting the message that drinking should be delayed, but not that it should be avoided. The message about dangers of alcohol is missed. **A greater percent of 12th grade students in 2007 than in 2004 reported that it was OK with their parents for them to drink alcohol.**

**Percent Who Report Parents Say It is “NOT OK” to Drink Alcohol and/or Smoke Cigaretts**

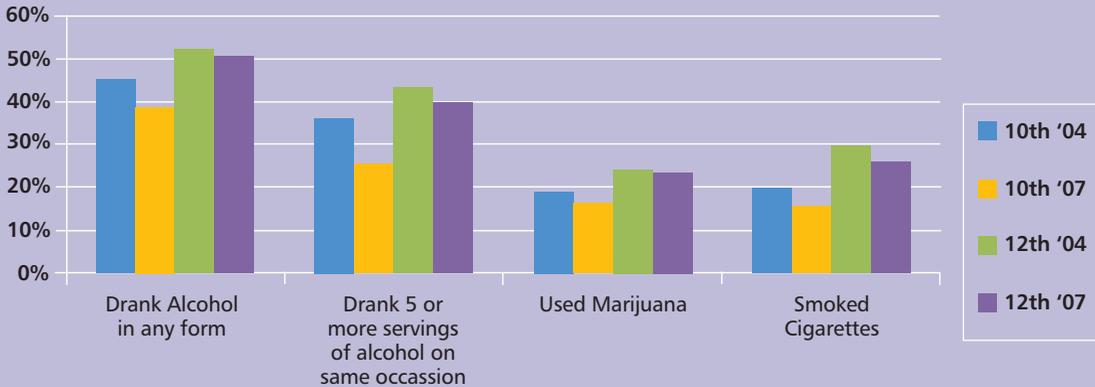


Source: 2002, 2004, and 2007 MAS Surveys.



## Percent of QAC Adolescents Reporting Use of Alcohol, Marijuana, and Tobacco within Past 30 Days

QAC has made progress in these areas, but we are still above the state averages.



Source: 2004 and 2007 MAS Surveys.

## Percent of QAC 12th Graders Reporting Use of Alcohol and/or Drugs While Driving within past 12 Months

In 2007, there is an increase in the number of twelfth grade students consuming 3 or more drinks containing alcohol and then driving. Our 12th grade students are riding in cars more often with a driver who was under the influence of alcohol. *Source: 2007 Maryland Adolescent Survey*

	1-2 times 2004	1-2 times 2007	3 or more times 2004	3 or more times 2007
Driving under the influence of alcohol (1-4 drinks)	19.4%	14.8%	7.4%	10.0%
Driving under the influence of marijuana	11.3%	11.3%	17.1%	16.1%
Driving under the influence of other drugs	8.0%	8.4%	8.1%	9.1%
Riding with a driver who is under the influence of alcohol	27.0%	29.1%	9.1%	14.5%

Source: 2004 and 2007 MAS Surveys.

*“Youth were 170 times more likely to see an ad promoting alcohol than an industry ad discouraging drunk driving”*

(Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth)

## Progress in Mobilizing Community Groups

### **Goal 5: Increase authentic citizen participation and sector collaboration around the goal of preventing and reducing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among QAC youth.**

- Two-thirds of the members of the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council and the Drug Free Community Coalition reported strong commitment to the Council and Coalition. Four-fifths said they really cared about the future of the partnerships, up significantly from two and one-half years earlier. Three members specifically commented about the involvement of youth.
- Assets Team, Character Counts! Disproportionate Minority Representation, Teen Court, Youth Summit, Students Against Destructive Decisions/ Youth Advisory Council memberships have grown substantially over the past five years.

### **Goal 6: Enhance community mobilization efforts toward delivery of effective substance abuse prevention strategies.**

- The importance and personal interest Council and Coalition members place on preventing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use in the community increased from 1.38 (0-2 scale) prior to the coalition being formed, to 1.81 in 2006, and to 1.86 in 2009.
- QAC implemented “Project Alert” and “Project Towards No Drug Abuse” (both evidenced based programs) in the public middle and high schools.

### **Goal 7: Strengthen the ability of QAC to understand risk and protective factors specific to youth substance abuse.**

- Prior to the beginning of the coalition, members reported a level of concern and interest that was higher than their levels of awareness and knowledge. Their awareness and knowledge, in turn, were greater than their linkage to organized services and activities. Interest, awareness and linkage increased by 2006, with much less difference among the three areas. Little additional change in awareness and linkage occurred between 2006 and 2009. Five members specifically commented on raising awareness as a major accomplishment of the coalition.
- Speaking, power point presentations, newsletters and many other forms of communication reinforce youth risk and protective factors.

### **Goal 8: Strengthen the ability of QAC to recognize and emphasize community assets and resources targeted for youth.**

- Most Council and Coalition members included written responses in 2009 to the question, “What do you think are the one or two major accomplishments of the coalition to date?” Half of them included terms like “collaboration,” “networking” and “bringing together.”
- QAC volunteers, coaches and community members teach and reinforce the Search Institute’s Forty Internal and External Assets with the Six Pillars of Character in numerous classrooms throughout the county.

## Summary

Members of the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council and the Drug Free Community Coalition report strong commitments to the Council and Coalition and care about their future. They are very satisfied with the overall work of the coalitions, with the leadership, and the amount of discussion. They most frequently mentioned the networking and collaboration of agencies as the major accomplishments of the coalition to date. They also mentioned raising awareness of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use, and involving youth.

*Talk to your kids about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs!  
You are their best protection!*

# Student Assistance Program

The Student Assistance Program (SAP) is an early identification, intervention, treatment and referral system for students who are educationally at risk because of possible alcohol, tobacco or other drug use. Students are referred from various resources e.g., teachers, parents, students, outside agencies and employees of the school system. Anyone can refer a student to the Student Assistance Program.

The SAP is in the two high schools and four middle schools. SAP teams meet once or twice per month in each school to identify youth who are potentially at risk for a substance abuse problem. The teams are comprised of a school administrator(s), guidance counselor(s), school nurse, Pupil Personnel Worker(s), school psychologist, and the Alcohol/Drug Abuse Counselor. Parental permission is always obtained before a student is seen by the Adolescent Substance Abuse Counselor.

## QAC Public School’s Student Assistance Program (SAP) Referrals for 2 High & 4 Middle Schools

	Number of SAP Referrals to Team	Number of Initial Parent Contacts	Number of Referrals for Assessments	Number of Assessments
2008-2009	72 (High School) 34 (Middle School)	36 (High School) 11 (Middle School)	32 (High School) 8 (Middle School)	22(High School) 8 (Middle School)
2007-2008	74 (High School) 8 (Middle School)	27 (High School) 5 (Middle School)	21(High School) 2 (Middle School)	15 (High School) 2 (Middle School)
2006-2007	99 (High School) 35 (Middle School)	58 (High School) 24 (Middle School)	26 (High School) 6 (Middle School)	Unknown
2005-2006	94 (High School) 40 (Middle School)	63 (High School) 12 (Middle School)	38 (High School) 6 (Middle School)	Unknown

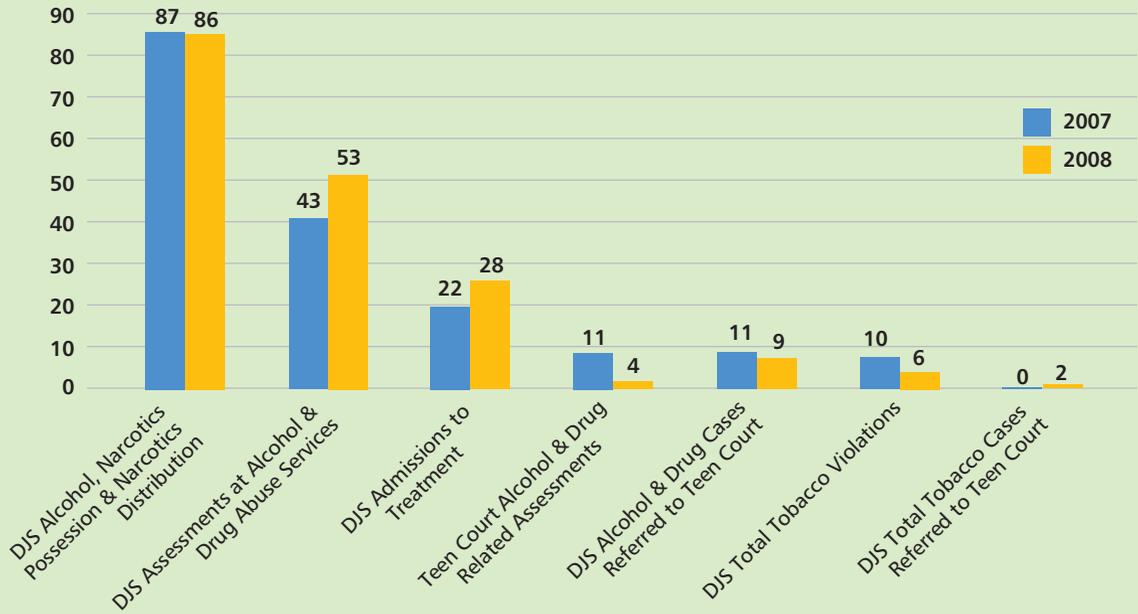
## QAC Schools’ In and Out of Suspensions for Alcohol/Drugs (A/D)\*

	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008
Queen Anne’s County High	49	24	35	26
Kent Island High	27	47	56	28
Centreville Middle	4	11	0	4
Matapeake Middle	N/A	N/A	N/A	3
Stevensville Middle	6	0	1	1
Sudlersville Middle	6	4	3	1
Total Number of School Suspensions for Alcohol	7	15	8	9
Total Number of School Suspensions for Inhalants	0	0	1	1
Total Number of School Suspensions for Drugs	16	10	13	12
Total Number of School Suspensions for Tobacco	67	60	73	40
Possess or Uses Illegal Drugs	2	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL Dangerous Substance</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>63</b>

\*Suspension, Expulsions, and Health Related Exclusions Maryland Public Schools and the MD Public School Suspensions by School and Major Offence Category, Out of School Suspensions and In-School Suspensions (MD State Department of Education Division of Accountability and Assessment)

## QAC Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) Total Intake Cases for Alcohol Violations, Narcotics Distribution, and Narcotics Possession.

The graph also includes the total number of DJS referrals assessed, DJS cases admitted to treatment, DJS Teen Court cases assessed, DJS alcohol & drug cases referred to Teen Court, the total DJS tobacco cases, and the tobacco cases referred to Teen Court for Fiscal Years 2007 and 2008.



Source: MD DJS Annual Statistical Reports, DJS Teen Court Referrals, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration system "SMART" treatment admissions by referral source for QAC and QAC Alcohol & Drug Abuse Services Assessment Data Collection

Approximately **one-half** of all QAC alcohol and/or other drug related juvenile offenders during FY '07 and '08 were assessed to determine if they had a substance abuse problem. Alcohol/drug professionals recommend that **ALL** alcohol/drug related offenders be assessed.

### Adolescent Alcohol/Drug Prevention Activities and Treatment Services

#### Alcohol/Drug Prevention Activities:

- Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol
- Prevention Groups in Middle Schools
- Character Counts: Further information on Character Counts or to become a Coach. visit [www.peopelofcharacter.org](http://www.peopelofcharacter.org)
- Developmental Assets: More information can be found about Youth Developmental Asset Building by visiting [www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org)
- Teen Court: Over 217 middle and high school youth volunteered processing over 76 cases
- Prevention Minimum Data Set: Report to State of MD

**Alcohol/Drug Treatment:** Two locations—Centreville and Kent Island. Currently, QAC Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services is funded for one full-time adolescent addiction counselor.

#### Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services for Adolescents:

1. Assessments: Clinic; schools as requested
2. Treatment groups: Clinic; two high schools
3. Referrals to higher levels of care, e.g., in-patient treatment
4. Referrals to other services
5. Breath and Urine Testing: Clinic only

## Drug-Free Queen Anne's County Coalition's Accomplishments

- The Fourth Annual Report on Adolescent Substance Abuse
- Two independent evaluations of the Drug-Free Community Coalition—Community Key Leader Surveys
- SAMHSA Newsletter: QAC Coalition highlighted in January/February 2009 issue
- Implementation of Project Alert and Project Towards No Dug Abuse, evidenced based programs in the public middle and high schools.
- QAC Board of Education policy changes for alcohol, tobacco and other drug referrals
- Increased Liquor Board sanctions for selling to minors
- A Parent's Guide for the Prevention of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs booklet
- Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol Base Line Report
- Alcohol and tobacco vendor training
- QAC TV: Vignettes; Health Watch
- Youth created public service announcements
- PowerPoint presentations
- Newsletters: ATOD and SafeHomes
- Email distribution database
- The Safe Homes Initiative
- Back to School Nights
- CADCA: Sent students and adults to National Conferences
- SADD: Sent students and adults to National Conferences
- Increased alcohol and tobacco compliance checks
- Increased saturation patrols and sobriety checkpoints

*"The coalition works at the grassroots level to decrease adolescent substance abuse and to delay the onset of adolescent substance abuse in Queen Anne's County."*

*(Drug-Free Queen Anne's Community Coalition Evaluation Report: FY 2009)*

## QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY PARTNERS

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment and Prevention Services

Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol

Alliance to Reduce Alcohol Abuse at QAC Board of Education

Assets Development Team

Board of Education

Chamber of Commerce: Business Members

Character Counts!: Advisory Board and Coaches

Chesapeake College

Chesapeake Helps

Churches and Faith Based Organizations

Cigarette Restitution Fund Program

Civic and Fraternal Organizations

Community Members

Community Partnerships for Children and Families (Local Management Board)

Courts: Circuit and District

County Government

CSAFE Community

Department of Juvenile Services

Department of Natural Resources

Department of Social Services

Detention Center

Disproportionate Minority Representation "CommUNITY"

Drug and Alcohol Council

Drug-Free Community Coalition

Drug Free Community Support Program

Foundation for Community Partnerships, Inc.

Health Care Professionals

Just Cause Consulting Firm

Law Enforcement: Centreville Town Police, QAC Sheriff's Office, MD State Police: Centreville Barracks, MD Transportation Authority: Bay Bridge Police

Local Businesses

Liquor Board

MD Alcohol and Drug Abuse Administration

Media: Star Democrat; Record Observer; Bay Times; Kent Island Update

Parents

Parks and Recreation

Parole and Probation

Partnering for Youth

Parent Teacher Student Associations

Public Defender's Office

QAC Alumni

QAC Department of Health Programs

QAC Public & Private Schools

QAC TV Channel 7

Recovering Community Members

Substance Abuse Mental Health Administration

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)

Student Assistance Programs

State's Attorney's Office

Teen Court

Tobacco Coalition

Wellness Coalition

Youth Advisory Council

Youth Rise

Youth Summit

### QAC County Commissioners

Gene M. Ransom, III –President

Courtney M. Billups –Vice President

Eric S. Wargotz, M.D.

Paul L. Gunther

Carol R. Fordonski

### County Administrator

John P. Borders, Jr.

### School Superintendent

Dr. Carol A. Williamson

### Queen Anne's County Department of Health Alcohol and Drug Abuse Service

206 N. Commerce Street  
Centreville, MD 21617

C. Devadason, M.D., FRCP, DPH  
*Health Officer*

### For more information, contact:

Kathy Wright

Drug Free Community Grant Coordinator

410-758-1306 x304

To report underage drinking parties or other alcohol/drug related offenses, please contact:

Queen Anne's County Sheriff's Office: 410-758-0770

Maryland State Police: 410-758-1101

Centreville Town Police: 410-758-8437

Queen Anne's County Drug Task Force: 410-758-8477