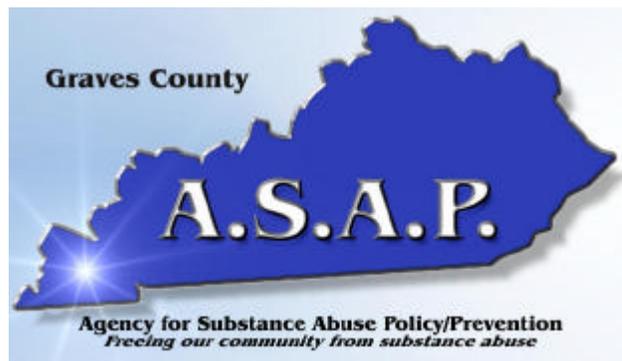


Our Vision - Freeing our community from substance abuse



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:
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Contact: Joseph Williams
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Lauren Carr hired as the Project Coordinator for the Graves County Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention



(Mayfield, KY) The Graves County Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) announced on June 1st, that it has chosen Lauren Carr as the full-time position of project coordinator.

“Lauren Carr will continue to build on the foundation established by the coalition. There are a large number on people in Graves County involved in substance abuse prevention including the schools, law enforcement, church groups, a variety of agencies, etc.” said Noel Coplen, Chair of the ASAP board.

Coplen followed with, “She will foster the relationships established by the ASAP coalition in a way that will focus the limited resources in our county in a manner that will achieve the biggest bang for the buck. When groups work together so much more can be accomplished.”

"Lauren has a work ethic that will be essential in coordinating the substance abuse prevention effort in our community. She will be vital in helping coordinate the community partners to free our community from substance abuse." said Joseph Williams, Program Director of the ASAP board.

Carr expressed in her cover letter she was passionate about substance abuse prevention. Stating, “An addict once explained to me that battling addiction is like being in a submerged submarine. It is so easy to turn that handle and open the door by yourself, but before you know it the water starts pouring in. Some are strong and can fight the battle and some need help getting the door closed. They fight every day to keep their head above water, and but sometimes they can never get that door closed, and loose the fight. My brother lost his battle with addiction in September 2011. I am committed into helping and work together to never open that door, never take that first pill, or if they do, help them close the door.”

This position was made possible by the Drug Free Communities grant that was awarded to the Graves County ASAP Coalition in 2013 and is expected to continue until 2018.

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.