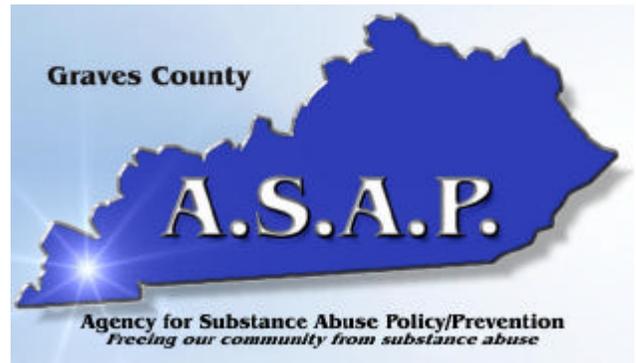


*Our Vision - Freeing our community from substance abuse*

*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](http://www.gcasap.org)*



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
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## Graves Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention Provides Teacher Training

Written by Lauren Carr, Project Coordinator, Graves County ASAP

(Mayfield, KY) The Graves County Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) provided an informational training about substance abuse prevention to staff from Graves County and Mayfield School districts on June 4<sup>th</sup>. A total of 89 attended. Teacher and staff attendance from each school was selected based on school enrollment.

“It was very encouraging to see many different stakeholders present at this training,” said Gavin Thompson, Director of Pupil Personal, Mayfield Independent School District. “Community members, law enforcement, and educators all take this problem very seriously and we certainly gained a lot of helpful information last Thursday.”

The training included testimonies, presentations, and discussions on drugs, substance abuse, and how it affects our community.

Chance Tibbs, a recovering addict, gave his testimony about battling addiction and how substance abuse has affected his life. Jeremy Prince, Captain, from Graves County Sherriff’s office, along with Brent Farmer from Mayfield Police Department had a discussion about different trends they are seeing in our community. Samantha Powell and Ellen Walsh, prevention specialists from Four Rivers Behavioral Health, presented on marijuana, statistics from local school districts, and new trends on marijuana use. Lastly, Amy Jeffers, Director, Pathways Regional Prevention Center, presented an educational session on tobacco, vaping, and e-cigs.

Breakfast and refreshments were provided by Mayfield/Graves County Community Education.

This training was made possible by the Drug Free Communities grant that was awarded to the Graves County ASAP Coalition in 2013.

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](http://www.gcasap.org).