



DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

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52 National and Local Presenters to Share the Latest Information on Preventing Underage Drinking, Drugs, and Youth Gangs at the 2006 Community Action Seminar

(HONOLULU) Over 52 national and local speakers will present the latest information on underage drinking, drugs, and youth gangs at the 2006 Community Action Seminar, "Working Together for Healthier Communities" on March 21 and 22, 2006 at Kamehameha Schools, Kapālama Campus from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
- Keith Kamita, Department of Public Safety, Narcotics Enforcement Division, to address latest drug trends.
- Aaron M. White, Ph.D. Duke University Medical Center, to address "Alcohol and the Developing Teen Brain," "Keeping Kids Safe and Promoting Healthy Brain Development," and "Prescription Drugs as an Emerging Threat to Teen Brains."
- Laurie Leiber, Marin Institute, to address how advertising can influence youth and media advocacy for youth.
- Jean O'Neil, National Crime Prevention Council, Washington, DC, to address how to measure the impact of crime prevention and using indicators for evaluation – how do you know you made a difference in your community.
- Mary Ann LaFazia, prevention consultant from Washington, and Andrea LaFazia, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, to address matching outcomes to prevention activities.
- Officers from Honolulu Police Department and former gang members to address youth gang prevention, gang trends, and tagging versus gang related graffiti.
- Representatives from Kline-Welsh Behavioral Health Foundation to address what they found in their intake assessments as to why people use drugs and what can be done to prevent drug abuse.
- A mother's tragic story of losing her son to suicide and what you can do to prevent it.
- Jody Shiroma Perreira, Sassy/G Magazine, to address understanding and working with youth and fostering youth relationships.

- Representatives from Hawaii County Department of Liquor Control, Honolulu Police Department, and the Lieutenant Governor's Office will share effective strategies to prevent underage drinking.
- Youth panel consisting of representatives from Adult Friends for Youth (a gang intervention agency), Parents and Children Together, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), and foster families will discuss contributing factors to underage drinking, drugs, and youth gangs and what can be done by individuals, schools, and communities to prevent this problem from increasing.
- Youth will learn how to get started in service learning and how to organize an activity to help their community.
- Master Navigator Nainoa Thompson, from the Polynesian Voyaging Society, will begin the seminar by addressing "Voyaging Together and Reaching for Common Dreams."

The purpose of the Community Action Seminar is to provide individuals with information on these topics and to provide a process where community coalitions, youth service organizations, and other interested groups can design and implement a team action plan to prevent underage drinking, drugs, and youth gangs in their neighborhoods. Adults and youth will have their own tracks.

Registration fee is \$20/one day and \$40/two days. The first 20 youth teams (five students and one chaperone) to register will receive a complimentary registration to attend the seminar. Registration fee includes continental breakfasts, lunches, afternoon refreshments, and conference materials. Delicious healthy Hawaiian meals will be provided by Kamehameha Schools.

The Community Action Seminar is sponsored by the Department of the Attorney General together with the Department of Education's Safe and Drug-Free Communities Program, Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii, Kamehameha Schools, Department of Health's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division, Honolulu Police Department, Housing and Community Development Corporation of Hawaii, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving-Hawaii.

For more information or to register, go to www.cpja.ag.state.hi.us and go to the Community and Crime Prevention Branch site.

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