

Press Release

Alexandria 10th Graders and Their Parents to Learn About Risks of Youth Substance Abuse at Community of Concern Program *Presentations and discussion to focus on how drugs, alcohol and tobacco affect the teenage brain*

For release
September 28, 2009

Contact: Noraine Buttar, 703-746-3670
Shelly Morgan, 703-519-6160
Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of
Alexandria – www.preventitalexandria.org

Alexandria, Va.— Alexandria 10th grade students and their parents are invited to attend a Community of Concern dinner and discussion about “The Teenage Brain: What you need to know and what you can do.”

The October 22 program will be the first Community of Concern event held in the City of Alexandria. The **Community of Concern** (www.thecommunityofconcern.org) is a partnership of parents, students, schools, and other organizations working together through education and cooperation to keep youth alcohol, tobacco and other drug free. Since its beginnings in 1998, hundreds of thousands of parents from both public and private schools throughout the nation have shared the organization’s booklet ***"A Parent's Guide for the Prevention of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Use"*** and attended Community of Concern programs.

Speakers at the Alexandria event will include T.C. Williams Principal William Clendaniel, Community of Concern President Mimi Fleury, and the vice chair of the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria and TC parent, Shelly Morgan.

Date: Thursday, October 22, 6:30 pm.

Location: T.C. Williams High School Cafeteria, 3330 King Street, Alexandria

Program: Dinner will be served. After the presentation, participants will break into small discussion groups, led by a facilitator.

Cost: There is no cost to attend and students can earn extra credit by attending.

This Community of Concern dinner is sponsored by the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria (SAPCA) in partnership with the Alexandria City Public School System. SAPCA is an alliance of more than 80 members representing parents, youth, schools, City of Alexandria health and recreation agencies, media, nonprofits, businesses, faith communities, policymakers and law enforcement whose mission is to engage the entire community in reducing youth substance use and abuse in Alexandria. SAPCA was created in 2007 as part of the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria (<http://www.alexhealth.org/partnership>). Alexandria Mayor William D. Euille is SAPCA’s honorary chair. SAPCA is a member of the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA). Information about SAPCA, including membership, is available at www.preventitalexandria.org.

###