

FOCUS

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About Us

FOCUS promotes school and community partnerships for the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other adolescent risk behaviors. The program is based on a student led approach and seeks to promote youth involvement in the planning of prevention activities.

Become a FOCUS School of the Year & Win \$500!

The FOCUS School of the Year Contest was created to honor schools that have implemented the FOCUS program within their school and, as a result, have created successful prevention activities and events.

Winners Will Receive:

- First place:**
 - \$500
 - A framed Award Certificate
 - A trophy
- Second place:**
 - \$250
 - A certificate
 - A trophy
- Third place:**
 - \$100
 - A certificate
 - A trophy

For more information, visit www.thefocusprogram.com
/ALABAMAFOCUS

The FOCUS School of the Year process has been updated!

The "FOCUS School of the Year" was created to recognize schools that have implemented the FOCUS program within their school and, as a result, have created successful prevention activities and events.

In order to be considered for the FOCUS School of the Year Contest your school will need to submit a description of their prevention activities and events from August 1 - April 1.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. The school's FOCUS Facilitator must submit a description on the FOCUS website at www.thefocusprogram.com by the deadline.
2. The school's FOCUS Facilitator must also upload a supporting video to the FOCUS YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/AlabamaFOCUS.
3. The winner must be registered as a FOCUS School (register at www.thefocusprogram.com/registration).

Judging Criteria:

1. The school has demonstrated dedication and commitment to creating successful prevention activities and events.

2. The school has demonstrated that the activities or events were based on a youth led approach and sought to promote youth involvement in the planning of prevention activities.
3. The school must plan and implement a World AIDS Day Activity (Planning Guide may be found on the FOCUS website's Facilitator Page).

Winners Will Receive:

1. First place will receive \$500, a framed Award Certificate and a trophy.
2. Second place will receive \$250, a certificate and a trophy.
3. Third place will receive \$100, a certificate and a trophy.

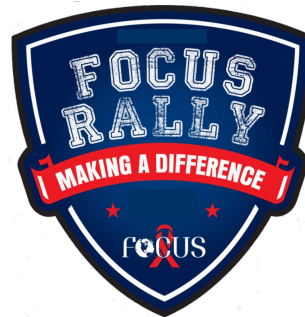
"FOCUS School of the Year" will receive awards at the individual school's Awards Day Program.

Share Successful Prevention Activities and Events!

Let us know about your successful prevention programs and activities. We would like to feature your success stories in our eNewsletters, on our website and via social media to promote the great work that is being done throughout Alabama. Contact April Freitag at afreitag@thefocusprogram.com to share your event or success story.



Save-the-Date for the 2017 FOCUS Rallies!



Making a Difference!

Youth in Grades 6-12 will attend motivational general sessions and interactive breakout workshops.

Topics: Alcohol and other drugs, suicide, distracted driving, HIV and other STIs, Teen Pregnancy, and Anti-Bullying

THREE DATES AND SITES!

- The University of Alabama, Tuesday, September 12, 2017
- Shocco Springs, Talladega, Wednesday, September 20, 2017
- South Alabama Site and Date - TBA

NEWS RELEASE

Prescription Painkillers: Should Your Teenager Ever Take Them?

According to the National Institute of Drug Abuse, about half of young people who inject heroin - also an opioid- reported abusing prescription painkillers before starting to use heroin.

"Prescription narcotics and illiit narcotics do the same thing in the brain," explains Dr. Jason Jerry, an addiction psychiatrist at the Cleveland Clinic's Alcohol and Drug Recovery Center. "So really when you become addicted to prescription narcotics, then switch to heroin, you are doing the same thing."

To view the complete article by *Your Teen Magazine for Parents* [please click here](#).



Welcome to our new FOCUS Schools!

Chantideer Learning Center
Lee County

And thank you to the schools who updated their information!

Horseshoe Bend School
Tallapoosa County

Reeltown High School
Tallapoosa County

The Donoho School
Calhoun County



\$15 Long Sleeve
100% Cotton
2016 Focus
T-Shirts
+ SHIPPING AND HANDLING

**SUPPORT
ALABAMA'S FUTURE!**

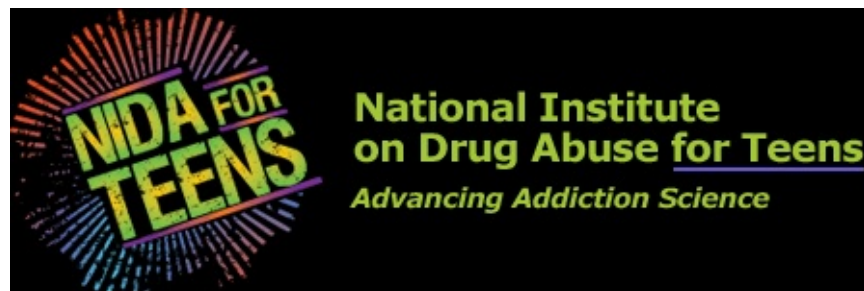
Empowering Students to Reduce
Adolescent Risk Behaviors! **FOCUS**

www.thefocusprogram.com
/ALABAMAFOCUS /ALABAMAFOCUS

NEW long sleeve FOCUS t-shirt available for purchase!

You can order your FOCUS T-shirts now by using the t-shirt order form. We can also print custom t-shirts with your school logo and the FOCUS logo.

[FOCUS T-Shirt Order Form](#)



FAQs about Marijuana

For more information visit <https://teens.drugabuse.gov>.



Reminder

Please be sure to register or update your school for the 2016-2017 school year!

You can register/update your school by clicking on the following link - www.thefocusprogram.com/registration . Be sure to include the number of FOCUS members for this school year when you update your information!

We are here to help and look forward to working with you and your students. Good luck and thank you for trusting that youth are capable young leaders. We can do it all with them, not for them.

If you no longer wish to be a FOCUS school please send me an email so that I can remove you from our list.



STAY CONNECTED:



The FOCUS eNewsletter provides links to articles and websites with information on current events, research, funding opportunities and other items related to the prevention of HIV/AIDS and other adolescent risk behaviors. The inclusion of this information does not imply endorsement by FOCUS and the opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position, policies or views of FOCUS.