



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Michael Sentance, J.D., LL.M.
State Superintendent of Education

May 31, 2017

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MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Michael Sentance *MS*
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: 2017 FOCUS Rally Events

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) is pleased to announce the opportunity for middle and high school students to participate in one of three FOCUS rallies in 2017. FOCUS is a youth-led program seeking to promote community and school involvement in the planning of prevention of high-risk behaviors.

The ALSDE, in collaboration with FOCUS and selected community partners, will hold three regional rallies this year. The first rally will be held on September 12, 2017, at the Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The second rally will be held on September 20, 2017, at the Shocco Springs Conference Center in Talladega, Alabama. The third rally will be held on October 11, 2017, at the First Baptist Church in Andalusia, Alabama.

A FOCUS facilitator summer one-day training will be held on July 11, 2017, at the Clanton Conference Center-Alabama Power Company. The PD Title Number is **SDECT0195** for the one-day facilitator training. The FOCUS Facilitator Summer Conference is offered for school administrators, counselors, nurses, and teachers interested in effectively implementing FOCUS in their middle and/or high schools (Grades 6-12).

Further details and registration are located online at www.thefocusprogram.com. Educators may receive professional development credit by registering at <https://pdweb.alsde.edu>. The PD Title Number is **SDECT0191** for the three rallies. Social Work CEUs will be provided by the Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners.

Questions regarding these events may be directed to Mrs. Sue Jones, FOCUS Director, by telephone at 256-453-0655 or by e-mail at sjones@thefocusprogram.com or Dr. Willietta Ellis Conner, Education Specialist, at 334-353-1607 or by e-mail at wconner@alsde.edu.

MS:SS:WC

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