

Ruby Douglas, CPS  
 Project Director  
 Parents Matter Coalition  
 c/o Growing Up Together  
 809 E. Dakota Avenue  
 Pierre, SD 57501  
 Parentsmatter@pie.midco.net  
[www.parentsmattercsd.com](http://www.parentsmattercsd.com)  
 605-224-3189 or  
 605-222-0638

Larry Weiss, Chairman  
 Parents Matter Coalition  
 weisscl@aol.com  
 605-222-4339

Elaine Scott,  
 Administrative Asst.  
 gut2@dakota2k.net  
 605-224-3189



**Parents Matter News Letter XIV** **February, 2012**

**Conversation: It's What's for Dinner  
 A Dinner Event Like No Other**

“Conversation It's What's for Dinner” community dinner for parents/ guardians/caregivers of middle and high school aged students’ encourages parents to engage children in preventative conversations on teenage sexuality and other safety concerns. Participants will gain new insight skills and approaches to open the lines of communication with their children. This is an opportunity for parents to hear from other parents, receive educational information to assist them as they guide their own children and ask questions of other teenagers to better understand the journey their teens are on.

The event is free but is limited to 75 people.

To save your seat at the event please go on-line at [parentsmattercsd.com](http://parentsmattercsd.com) and fill in the registration form or :

Email either: Ruby at [Parentsmatter@pie.midco.net](mailto:Parentsmatter@pie.midco.net) or,  
 Elaine at [gut2@dakota2k.net](mailto:gut2@dakota2k.net) with how many seats to reserve,  
 or call Growing Up Together 224-3189 and ask for Ruby or Elaine  
**by January 31, 2012.**

Donations of canned goods accepted for the Pierre Food Pantry.

This Alcohol Free event is funded by: Coordinated School Health, a collaboration between the South Dakota Departments of Education and Health, through grant to Volunteers of America, Dakotas, Capital Area United Way of Pierre/ Fort Pierre, Parents Matter Coalition of Pierre/Fort Pierre, Growing Up Together, SD Office of Attorney General, CBM Food Service, Pierre Public School, Stanley County Schools, SD-DSS– Community Behavioral Health.

**SPECIAL POINTS OF  
 INTEREST IN THIS  
 ISSUE**

- **How To Be a Mean Parent**
- **Liability Laws Make Parents Responsible for Underage Drinking in Their Home**
- **Coming Attractions**
- **What's Happening in Parents Matter**



**How To Be A Mean Parent**

- A mean parent never allows candy or sweets to take the place of a well-balanced meal.
- A mean parent insists on knowing where their children are at all times, who their friends are and what they do.
- A mean parent breaks the child labor law by making their children work—washing dishes, making beds, learning to cook and doing other cruel and unpleasant chores.
- A mean parent makes life miserable for their offspring by insisting that they always tell the truth.
- A mean parent produces teenagers who are wiser and more sensible.
- A mean parent can smile with secret delight and pride when they hear their own grand-children call their parents “mean”.
- What the world needs now are more mean parents...Anonymous

Thanks to:  
 Prairie Pages Book-seller, LLC  
 For their contribution to Parents Matter in January.  
 “Messengers in Denim” by Parnell Donahue was the door prizes won by Tito Arguello, Tony Mangan  
 Congratulations Guys!

*“It's amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit” Harry Truman*

**Headline: Parents Matter Guest Speaker  
SSG Justin Pederson, Criminal Analyst  
FBI Drug Task Force—Pierre, SD  
“Synthetic Drugs and The Dangers Behind Them”**

This will be the topic at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the “Parents Matter Coalition”, February 8, 2012, 5th Floor Conference Room, St. Mary’s Healthcare Center at noon. Everyone is welcome to attend. Guest speaker Justin Pederson’s topic is timely for anyone that works with children and youth or just any concerned citizen. Lunch will be provided.



**!!WARNING!! Teen Trends In Drug USE**




Please check out the YouTube sites below:

Kratom’s link: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cfwv\\_Tm88qA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cfwv_Tm88qA)

Dragonfly’s link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3kL8wj56p1g>

**SD Urban Indian Health Drug Testing Program**

<p>The National Institute on Drug Abuse report in December of 2011 indicates a prevalence of synthetic drug use, (K2, Spice, Posh, Bath Salts). It considers synthetic marijuana the second most frequent illicit drug after marijuana. The Poison Control Center reports over 5,500 calls in 2011 relating to synthetic marijuana.</p> <p>These drugs are marketed as “legal” substances. They are sometimes labeled as “herbal incense” and sold in small pouches or packages over the Internet, found in tobacco and smoke shops, drug paraphernalia shops, gas stations and convenience stores.</p>	<p>There’s still a lot we do not know about these drugs, what we do know is the serious adverse effects of their use: agitation, anxiety, nausea, vomiting, tachycardia (fast, racing heartbeat), elevated blood pressure, tremor, seizures, hallucinations, paranoid behavior and death.</p> <p>We believe that parents are the most powerful force in their teen’s lives. It is important that you talk to them about the serious consequences of synthetic drugs in whatever form they appear.</p>	 <p>Urban Indian Health can now offer another standard of care in our community to include the ability to test for the presence of these synthetic chemicals in a timely manner.</p> <p>It can be frustrating waiting for lab results we are now able to offer those results within 24-48 hours. If you have a concern we can help you learn about these substances and find solutions for you family.</p> <p>Jan Johnson, CCDC II Clinical Supervisor, SDUIH 605-224-8841 Ext. 118</p>	<p><b>SD Urban Indian Health is hosting an event for area professionals: National HIV Day Guest Speaker: Shana Cozad (Nationally Recognized Speaker) Friday, March 9, 2012 at Pierre Indian Learning Center (PILC) and on Saturday, March 10, 2012 ( at PILC), the event will be open to the public. For further information contact:</b></p> <p><b>Janice Johnson, CCDCII Behavioral Health Clinical Supervisor South Dakota Urban Indian Health Services 1714 Abbey Rd. Pierre, SD 57501</b></p>
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**Watch for Senate Bill— (SB23) Synthetic/Designer Drugs—This is an amendment to existing Statute 34-20B-14—**A South Dakota senate Panel is set to vote on whether at least 23 substances generally known as synthetic marijuana should be added to the controlled substances list. The substances include so-called “night lights”, a date-rape drug, and bath salts, which are growing in popularity with young adults as high-inducing chemicals. Attorney General Marty Jackley says the abuse of these substances is becoming an epidemic that’s tough to control because chemists keep tweaking the ingredients. If the bill amendment passes, packaging could no longer call substances that have been deemed as synthetic marijuana drugs legal.

## Liability Laws Make Parents Responsible for Underage Drinking in Their Home

Parents who allow their teens to have friends over to drink, thinking it's a safe way to keep them off the roads, may be surprised to find they are subject to liability laws that make them vulnerable to lawsuits, fines and jail time.

Parents in some states can be liable even if they were not aware that drinking was going on in their home, according to the **Associated Press**.

One Stanford University professor was arrested in November after his 17-year-old son had a party in the basement. The professor, Bill Burnett, said he had forbidden alcohol at the party and had twice checked on the teens. He spent one night in jail and was booked on 44 counts of suspicion of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Each count carries up to a \$2,500 fine and almost a year in jail. Eight states have "Social Host" laws that make

Parents liable if underage guests in their home are drinking, even if no harm comes to anyone, the AP reports.

In some of the states, parents are allowed to serve alcohol to their own children in certain situations. In 16 other states, laws hold parents responsible for underage drinking in some circumstances, such as if a teenager who drank in their home was in a car accident.

Research conducted by **Students Against Destructive Decisions**, and co-sponsored by the insurance company **Liberty Mutual**, found 41 percent of teens say their parents allow them to go to parties where alcohol is being served, compared with 36 percent two years ago.

*Article provided by the Associated Press*

## What's Happening in Parents Matter

Parents Matter Coalition continues growing. Our CMCA One-on-One Interviews have generated an additional list of people wishing to receive our newsletter (42) and provide talents (gifts) and information in regards to addressing underage drinking in our communities. The second round has been started.

## COMING ATTRACTIONS



### Beyond Billboards & Brochures

**Free training**, Don't be a party to teenage drinking.

A well-evaluated media campaign that is more than billboards and brochures. This program can meaningfully impact environmental factors which contribute to underage drinking in the community.

**Dates:** February 8, 2012—12:00 pm to 6:00 pm and Feb.9, 2012 8:00 am to 2:00 pm.

**Location:** Nordstrom Building, Beta Room—521 E. Sioux Ave. Pierre, SD.

**Contact Ruby 605-224-3189 for more information and to register.**

### SAVE the DATE!

March 27, 28, 29, 2012

**Strengthening Families Program: For Parents & Youth 10-14 Facilitator Training (registration must be received by 2/21/2012)**

\*Evidence-based program designed for youth ages 10-14 and their parent(s)/ caregiver(s) to:

- Prevent teen substance abuse & behavior problems
- Reinforce parenting skills
- Build family resilience

\*Interactive activities including discussion, learning games, role-playing and family projects.

**When:** March 27, 28, 29, 2012

**Where:** Chamberlain, SD (AmericInn, 1981 East King Street)

**Who:** Energetic Professionals and Community members who are good with youth and want to help families.

**Cost:** Free (for registration information email [jessica.kirkham@sdstate.edu](mailto:jessica.kirkham@sdstate.edu))

### "Simulated Reality" Coming to High Schools

Driving drunk or driving distracted because of texting can be life changing. Instead of learning the harsh realities behind the wheel, Sioux Empire Safety Village is teaching students through virtual reality driving simulators.

During the month of February, high school students in Pierre/Fort Pierre will have the opportunity to experience "Simulated Reality." Students will "drive" the virtual reality simulators, which have the feel of a real car but offer different settings. One program shows what it is like to drive drunk. Another lets you use your own cell phone to text while you drive.

But it doesn't stop their the program shows consequences. When you get pulled over, a police officer gives you a field sobriety test. If someone is injured, an ambulance comes. You might end up in court.

Look for the Sioux Empire Safety Village "Simulated Reality" simulators at Riggs and Stanley County Schools during the month of February.

## Our Sponsors—Thank You!

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**CATHOLIC HEALTH INITIATIVE**

**St. Mary's Healthcare Center**

**DSS**

Strong Families - South Dakota's Foundation and Our Future



**Stanley County Booster Club**



**Retired Seniors Volunteer Program**

Pierre Police Department.  
 KGFX Dakota Radio Group  
 KCCR Radio  
 SD Dept of Education  
 Pierre School District  
 Stanley County School  
 SD Dept of Labor, Experience Works  
 Teen Court (CAC's)  
 Capital Journal  
 Hughes County Sheriff  
 Stanley County Sheriff  
 Rocky & Skyla Nicholas

**TACO JOHN'S**



**SOUTH DAKOTA Urban Indian Health**



*Walgreens of Pierre*

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