June 2012 – LIVE REAL Mentor Listserv Email

Hello LIVE REAL Mentors,

I hope your summer is starting off well! Some interesting articles related to marijuana have come out in recent weeks, and I wanted to take this opportunity to share some of these with you.

First, here in North Dakota, Rep. Steve Zaiser (Fargo) is sponsoring an initiative to make using and growing medical marijuana legal in the state. The article from The Forum provides additional information regarding the proposal, which is the first initiative that has been raised in the state to date.

Additionally, a report discussing the challenges that medical marijuana laws are posing for colleges and universities was recently released. The article reinforces that, regardless of the legality of medical marijuana in some states, marijuana is still illegal under federal law, and therefore colleges that allow the use of medical marijuana on campus are at risk for loss of federal funding under the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. This is one more important issue for higher education officials to consider as more states pass medical marijuana laws.

Finally, a recent article on the debate about roadside marijuana testing gives an overview of how some medical marijuana states are currently handling marijuana-impaired driver testing. Currently, only a few states have set specific limits on THC levels for drivers, while others have zero tolerance policies for driving under the influence of marijuana. A saliva test is in development and may soon be available for roadside use.

Want more AOD prevention updates?
Join Together, a collaboration of the Boston University School of Public Health and The Partnership at Drugfree.org, offers a helpful, daily newsletter providing updates from the alcohol and drug prevention field. To subscribe, visit the Join Together website and enter your email address under “Subscribe”.

Have a great summer!

Erika