

Tobacco Coalition and Substance Abuse Council hold joint meeting

Written by

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The Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Coalition along with Washington County Substance Abuse meeting held a joint meeting together on February 5 at the government Building. 25 plus attendees enjoyed lunch compliments of Papa Johns with drinks provided by Sav A Lot.

Sharon Purlee with Substance Abuse Council named the recipients of the 2009 mini grants.

They are as follows: Salem Police Department will receive \$2000 for vests and a camera; Salem SADD will received \$1200 for the National Conference held in Washington D.D; \$100 for a sack project for Elementary students to decorate and \$70 for Orange Ribbon Week, for a total of \$1370; Salem National Honor Society will received \$1000 for the After Prom; West Washington High School SADD will receive \$500 for miscellaneous events; Purdue Extension will received \$932 for LEAD which is Legal Education Against Drugs that will be presented to all fifth graders in Washington County; LifeLine/Teen Challenge will have \$1000 to be used for counseling and Hoosier Hills PACT will get \$2500 for advocacy with a grand total of \$9302 being given in mini grants.

"We did not have as many mini grants turned in this year so we were able to give all grants that were submitted and I think thats a very good thing." stated Purlee

Rhonda Mills, Coordinator Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Coalition gave a report of The Great American Smoke-out story, Indiana Campaign for SmokeFree Air and West Washington School Corporation receiving the Gary Sandifur Award.

According to Mills, Washington County is now referred to as a Blue County with the Hospital and all County Schools adopting a smoke free facility and grounds policy.

For the third quarter of 2008, Washington County callers to the Indiana quit line was 33 total calls. Neighboring counties such as Crawford with three; Floyd with 31; Harrison with 23; Orange with 14 and Scott received 32 calls.

A VOICE report was given by Laura O'Donnell and Eva Warren-Hill stating they will be holding a prevent child abuse and healthy relations presentation to seventh and eighth graders.

Randy Bugh stated the total of cessation participants from the beginning of the year is seven.

The door prize was won by Laurie Carr.

The next Washington County Substance Abuse Council will be March 5.