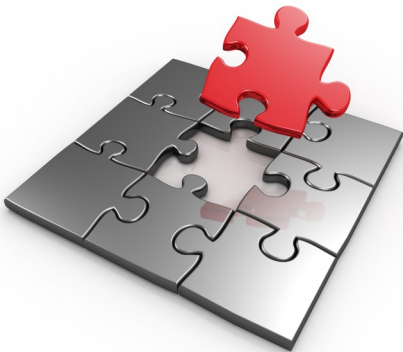


## A Message from J. Sándor Cheka, III, Executive Director

The first half of 2014 was a wonderful growth period for the Addiction Prevention Coalition. Because of a \$625,000 matching grant from the Office of National Drug Control Policy, we have been expanding our impact into the local community and schools, including bringing a national tool to determine attitudes, beliefs and behaviors to Birmingham City Schools. We are laying the groundwork for change in our community through strategic partnerships including the U.S. Attorney's Office, Jefferson County Department of Health and UAB School of Public Health. We are also excited to announce our Working Group that is beginning to grow the work of the Coalition through volunteerism. Lastly, we hope you will join us in a social media campaign to raise awareness about drug abuse and addiction in Birmingham. #APCCodeRED will be our outlet to help educate and encourage action from our community. We look forward to our continued growth with your support as we are "committed to eliminating addiction in Central Alabama."

*J. Sándor Cheka, III*

## Our Purpose



The Addiction Prevention Coalition was founded in 2007 as The Freedom Source, Inc. to connect those who need help for alcohol or drug addiction with treatment options in the community. Since that time, the Coalition has expanded to include youth drug prevention programs and increased its capacity to raise awareness of this issue in the community. Our focus on awareness, prevention, treatment and overall community collaboration to eliminate addiction in Central Alabama allows for an integrated and connected approach to fighting addiction.

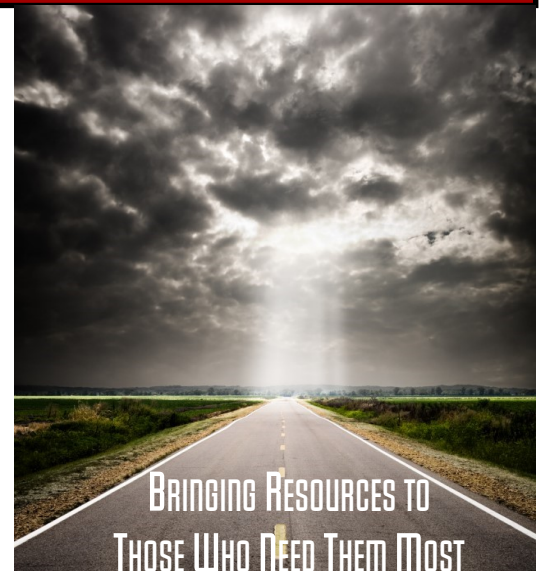
## Addiction Prevention Resources

**For Those Needing Help:** The directory includes different treatment options in the area including detox, rehab, recovery and support groups. Each provider on the site lists their in-take costs, overall program cost, length of program and if they accept insurance.

**For Family Members and Loved Ones:** Information provided on specific drugs, the treatment process and articles for how to help a loved one with an addiction.

**2014:** There are 114 providers listed on the directory. Since January, the Coalition has been working to expand the resource directory to include providers in Tuscaloosa. Four new providers have registered with the directory. The site has had 2,504 visitors.

**To access the directory, go to [AddictionPreventionCoalition.org](http://AddictionPreventionCoalition.org) and select Resource Directory-Find Help**



## Addiction Prevention Chapters: Character-Choices-Compassion

The Addiction Prevention Coalition sponsored seven Chapters in high schools during the 2013-2014 school year. Twenty-five students were trained as Addiction Prevention Chapter leaders. The leaders are responsible for each of their school Chapters, and they share facts about different substances and lead small group discussions focused character and decision-making. The Chapters allow for a trusting environment to have real discussions about the facts. For the 2014-2015 school year, four new high schools will start Addiction Prevention Chapters. August 4th-5th, the Addiction Prevention Coalition will host a Youth Leadership Retreat at the 4-H Center in Columbiana to train 72 youth leaders for the new school year.

<b>2013-2014 School Year Highlights</b>
<b>Youth Advisory Council: 21 middle and high schools represented, 113 students attended</b>
<b>Addiction Prevention Chapters: 643 students total attended meetings (not unique)</b>
<b>Service Projects: 75 students attended projects at Changed Lives Christian Center, Aletheia House and The Foundry</b>
<b>Drug Prevention Walk: 171 youth and adults participated in partnership with the Youth Leadership Development Program</b>

Chapter Year-End Results for Past 30-Day Use	'11-'12	'12-'13	'13-'14
Abstinence from Alcohol	78.3%	80.4%	88.9%
Abstinence from Marijuana	85.1%	82.2%	90.7%
Abstinence from Illegal Drugs	91.5%	100%	100%
Abstinence from Medication Abuse	N/A	N/A	97.7%

Starting with the 2013-2014 school year, the Coalition added a question that separates medication abuse from illegal drugs.

## Addiction Prevention Awareness and Community Engagement

The Addiction Prevention Coalition is committed to raising awareness about the devastating effects of alcohol and drug addiction on the community and engaging volunteers in this effort. The Coalition has formed a Working Group of volunteers who are meeting bi-monthly to plan interventions to address marijuana use and medication abuse. Seventeen volunteers are engaged in this work and started meeting in April.

On June 10th, the Coalition was a partnering organization for the Pills to Needles Summit sponsored by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Alabama. The Coalition will continue as one of the community partners to address medication abuse in the community that is leading to an increase in heroin use. Since January 2014, the Coalition has reached 1,154 people through presentations and community events and has been featured in 10 articles, news stories and radio interviews.

Due to the devastating outcomes of addiction our community sees each day, the Coalition has launched #APCCodeRED. The #APCCodeRED team is on the front lines of raising awareness about addiction and the urgent need for treatment and prevention. They like and share our Facebook page, develop followers on Twitter and share information with their connections.

**APCCODE RED**

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[twitter.com/APCBham](https://twitter.com/APCBham)

For additional information about the Addiction Prevention Coalition, please contact our office or visit our website. A list of our Financial Partners, online donation options and our previous Mid-Year and Annual Reports are available on the site.