



Students Taking A New Direction (STAND)

FACT SHEET

A STAND Chapter is an identifiable group of middle school students assuming major responsibility for their own leadership and facilitated by a parent-teacher team. Chapters meet regularly addressing the five components in a variety of ways. Parent involvement and support is structured into the program.

- **Skill Development:** This component is designed to enhance social competencies that, in turn, will decrease acceptance of and involvement in alcohol and other drug use. Methods include focused activities, role-play and rehearsal.
 - Leadership skills
 - Refusal and assertiveness skills
 - Communication skills with parents, peers and teachers
 - Asset Development
 - Decision Making
- **Community Service:** The component of service to others has at its root the fostering of satisfaction that comes with assuming responsibility and seeing it through. This component provides opportunity for students to experience the rewards of meaningful participation in commitment to others.
 - Substance abuse awareness campaigns and activities
 - Environmental projects
 - Senior citizen help days
 - Food and Clothing Drives
- **Parent Participation:** STAND Chapters will empower parents to create a prevention climate in their homes. Goals include helping parents understand the developmental level of their middle school child; how to appropriately respond to thoughts, feelings and behaviors of their child; how to talk with their child about drugs; and how to reinforce/practice refusal skills at home.
 - Fundraising
 - Guidance-morals, values and social ethics
 - Transportation
 - Role modeling
- **Social Activities (Chemical Free):** Fun is a key motivator in the middle school STAND program. With the assistance of the parent-teacher advisor team, students plan and enjoy activities that draw other students to the group and are rewards for their efforts. This provides an important opportunity for high-risk youth to interact in a positive way with their pro-social peers.

Fundraising

 - Meetings (structured with activities, projects, hands on participation, limited time on business matters; facilitated by co-advisors)
 - Awards/recognition events
 - Parties/dances/lock-ins
 - Family Fun Nights
- **Safety Awareness:** Students will be able to assess the need for awareness, develop an action plan, execute the plan and evaluate outcomes following their Safety Belt use campaign efforts. A key element to this component is student action; learning through active participation with real situations and seeing their efforts create a change.
 - Survey seat belt use of school community via written feedback, interviews, parking lot observations
 - Awareness campaigns – window decals, bumper stickers, pledge cards
 - Poster contest
 - Things you wear to keep you safe: Seat belts, Bike helmets, wrist, knee and elbow pads
 - Things you do to keep you safe: Look before crossing the street, Don't walk alone, Avoid dangerous situations, and beware of friends who are risk takers.

AWARDS

- 1993 - Michigan Exemplary Drug Prevention Program, State of Michigan Office of Drug Control Policy
- 1999 - National Safety Council - Award of Merit, Youth Activities Division
- 2005 - High/Scope Educational Research Foundation & Youth Program Quality Assessment- SLS Best of 90 MI Youth Programs
- 2007 - "STAND To Be Active" - Youth Venture Service Learning Project
- 2011-2012 - Service To Science Award from federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- 2012 - Governor's Traffic Safety Award for Long Term Achievement presented by MI Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)