

asac action

February 2010

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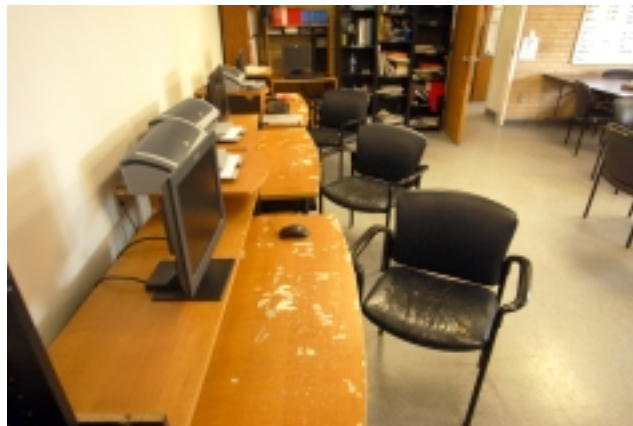
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Visit our web site at
www.asac.us

Youth Residential Improvement Project

Last September ASAC's Youth Residential program, CD+, received a grant from Variety, the Children's Charity to purchase new chairs and study carrels for the program's group room. The youth spend 10 - 12 hours a day in treatment and educational programming. The poor surroundings were not creating a positive environment for the clients. After touring the CD+ program as part of a United Way tour, Pioneer Workplace Solutions offered their expertise in furnishing the room. They provided the chairs and study carrels at a reduced cost and Karla Meier, Pioneer Account Representative, helped us select pieces that were not only durable but also comfortable and attractive. We could not be happier! Below are before and after pictures of the Youth Residential treatment room.



To the left is the before picture of the CD+ group room before the new furniture was purchased. The seats of the vinyl chairs were cracking and the study tables were marred.

To the right is a picture of the CD+ group room with the new chairs and computer stations. We will be seeking additional funding to purchase additional study carrels and tables to complete the renovation.



Request for Donations

ASAC is in need of 17-inch and 19-inch televisions, single beds, twin size bedding, and upright dressers. Items may be dropped off at either Heart of Iowa, 4050 Bowling Street SW, or ASAC's main campus, 3601 16th Avenue SW in Cedar Rapids. If you need a furniture donation picked up, please contact Laurel Merrick or Linda Touro at 390-4611. Tax receipts will be provided.

2010 Iowa Drug Control Strategy

Iowa's Drug Control Strategy is a comprehensive summary of prevention, treatment, and enforcement activities in the state. The annual document is developed by the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy on behalf of the Drug Policy Advisory Council. The strategy supports three desired results:

1. All Iowans are healthy and drug-free
2. Iowa communities are free from illegal drugs, and
3. All Iowans are safe from drug abusing offenders.

The 2010 Drug Control Strategy was released in November. Highlights:

- Marijuana and methamphetamine are the two most abused drugs in Iowa. Alcohol continues to be the substance most frequently abused.
- Medicine abuse is Iowa's fastest growing form of substance abuse.
- Meth activity in Iowa is increasing after trending downward over the past five years.
- Alcohol consumption in Iowa, based on sales, increased for the eighth straight year.

To access the 2010 Drug Control Strategy, go to www.iowa.gov/odcp/images/2010strategy_finalwithlinks.pdf

ASAC Helps Flood Impacted Individuals and Families

Iowa's Flood of 2008 is following the trend of other disasters when substance abuse treatment needs escalated post-disaster. Immediately after the flood ASAC client numbers declined. Then in early 2009 we experienced a sharp rise in the number of persons seeking substance abuse treatment. To address the increased need for services, ASAC applied for, and received funding from, the United Way of East Central Iowa and the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation to hire two additional counselors. Since July 2009, ASAC has provided substance abuse assessment and treatment services to 679 flood affected clients. The number of individuals seeking treatment who were flood impacted is not decreasing. In January, sixty-nine clients reported that they were flood-affected.

The Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation also provided funding to ASAC to provide assistance to flood impacted clients. Through January, 57 clients have received help from this fund. The top two needs met through the Client Assistance Grant was for clothing and household items.



Clinton County Prevention Update

On January 20th from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., Clinton Prevention Department's Camanche YEL & JEL Chapters supervised by Prevention Specialist Renee Snyder sponsored a Family Fun Night at Camanche High School. The activity included a cake walk (cakes baked by chapter students) a free hot dog supper, bingo and many games for the entire family. The event was coordinated and implemented by Camanche JEL/YEL students.

In addition to being a fun time for all who attended, the Family Fun Night also provided tobacco prevention information to the Camanche community.