

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS: Linking National Organizations and Local Coalitions

What is CADCA?

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) is a national organization of more than 5,000 community coalition members from across the country. CADCA works to build drug-free communities and to provide members of coalitions with training, media strategies, marketing programs, networking, conferences and special events.

Community coalitions—more than any other entity—are poised to connect multiple sectors of the community, including businesses, parents, media, law enforcement, schools, faith organizations, health providers, social service agencies, and the government. By acting in concert through the coalition, all of the partners gain a more complete understanding of the community's problems. Together, the partners organize and develop plans and programs to coordinate their anti-drug efforts. The result is a comprehensive, community-wide approach to substance abuse and its related problems.

CADCA's National Coalition Institute

In late September 2002, CADCA was awarded \$2 million from the Drug-Free Communities Support Act to establish and administer the National Community Anti-Drug Coalition Institute. The Institute serves as both a vehicle for coalition-specific substance abuse prevention policy development and a center for coalition training, technical assistance, evaluation, research and capacity building.

The Institute presents an extraordinary opportunity to move the coalition field forward providing a means to harness the experience and passion of community coalition leaders with the best that researchers and government partners have to offer. The Institute's mission and objectives are ambitious but achievable. In short, the Institute will be able to help grow new, stronger and more effective coalitions.

CADCA Partners

CADCA partners with a number of significant private and public organizations. CADCA public partners include: the Office of National Drug Control Policy, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Center for Substance Prevention, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, Drug Enforcement Administration, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Office of Juvenile and Delinquency Prevention, Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Program, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the National Guard. CADCA's private partners include: American Bar Association, Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, Join Together, National Association for Children of Alcoholics, National Association of Drug Court Professionals, National Crime Prevention Council, National Family Partnership, Partnership for a Drug-Free America, and PRIDE. CADCA's non-federal funding partners include the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Additional funding sources include the Samuel Newhouse Foundation, the Sue Ann and John L. Weinberg Foundation, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the William Randolph Hearst Foundations.

What is the Strengthening Partnerships Project?

The Strengthening Partnerships project is an effort to assist local community coalitions in connecting with local organizations and associations that share a common goal in making the local community a healthier and safer place to live. It is spearheaded by a select group of coalition representatives, the CADCA National Coalition Institute's Leader/Mentors. The project is designed to encourage an influential group of national organizations—those with wide reach into local communities—to become partners with CADCA, and to encourage their local chapters to become actively involved in supporting local anti-drug coalitions.