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Prevention First Celebrates National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week.

[Springfield, Illinois] - March 18, 2024 - Prevention First takes great pride in supporting National Drug and Alcohol Facts week. This annual initiative, organized by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), aims to educate young people and provide them with factual information about substance use.

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week, March 18 to March 24, is a nationwide campaign that brings together schools, community organizations, and healthcare professionals to raise awareness about the risks and consequences of drug and alcohol use. Through educational events, online resources, and open discussions, this week-long initiative empowers young individuals to make informed decisions regarding their health and well-being.

The latest state report of the Illinois Youth Survey shares that while most Illinois youth do not use substances, there are some that do. Of those that use substance, alcohol continues to be the most used substance among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. This is followed by smoking (tobacco products or e-cigarettes or vaping) and marijuana use. This data serve as a stark reminder of the need for effective substance use prevention.

Karel Homrig, Executive Director of Prevention First, expressed her enthusiasm for National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week, saying, “Educating our youth about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse is paramount to building healthier communities. By providing accurate information and fostering open conversations, we can empower young people to make positive choices and avoid the negative consequences associated with substance abuse.”

Prevention First encourages everyone to get involved in National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week and take part in spreading awareness about the risks and consequences of substance abuse. Together, we can create a healthier and drug-free future for the youth of Illinois.

Please visit prevention.org for training and resources on substance use prevention strategies. For planning and registering for NDAFW events please visit <https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/national-drug-alcohol-facts-week>.

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About Prevention First:

Prevention First is a nonprofit organization committed to building healthier, safer communities through evidence-based prevention strategies. By collaborating with schools, communities, and other stakeholders, Prevention First aims to educate, engage, and empower individuals to make informed choices, preventing substance abuse and promoting overall well-being.

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