

# Monthly Happenings Gazette

## March 2023

Greetings Alabama and Arkansas Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Coalitions.

**Welcome** to the **Monthly Happenings Gazette**; our monthly snapshot resource for highlighting and sharing current events, announcements, learning opportunities, resources and **YOUR** coalition's success stories. Please note that this is **NOT** a formal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), DFC or Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) approved gazette, but a safe space for sharing resources and other information that others may find useful.

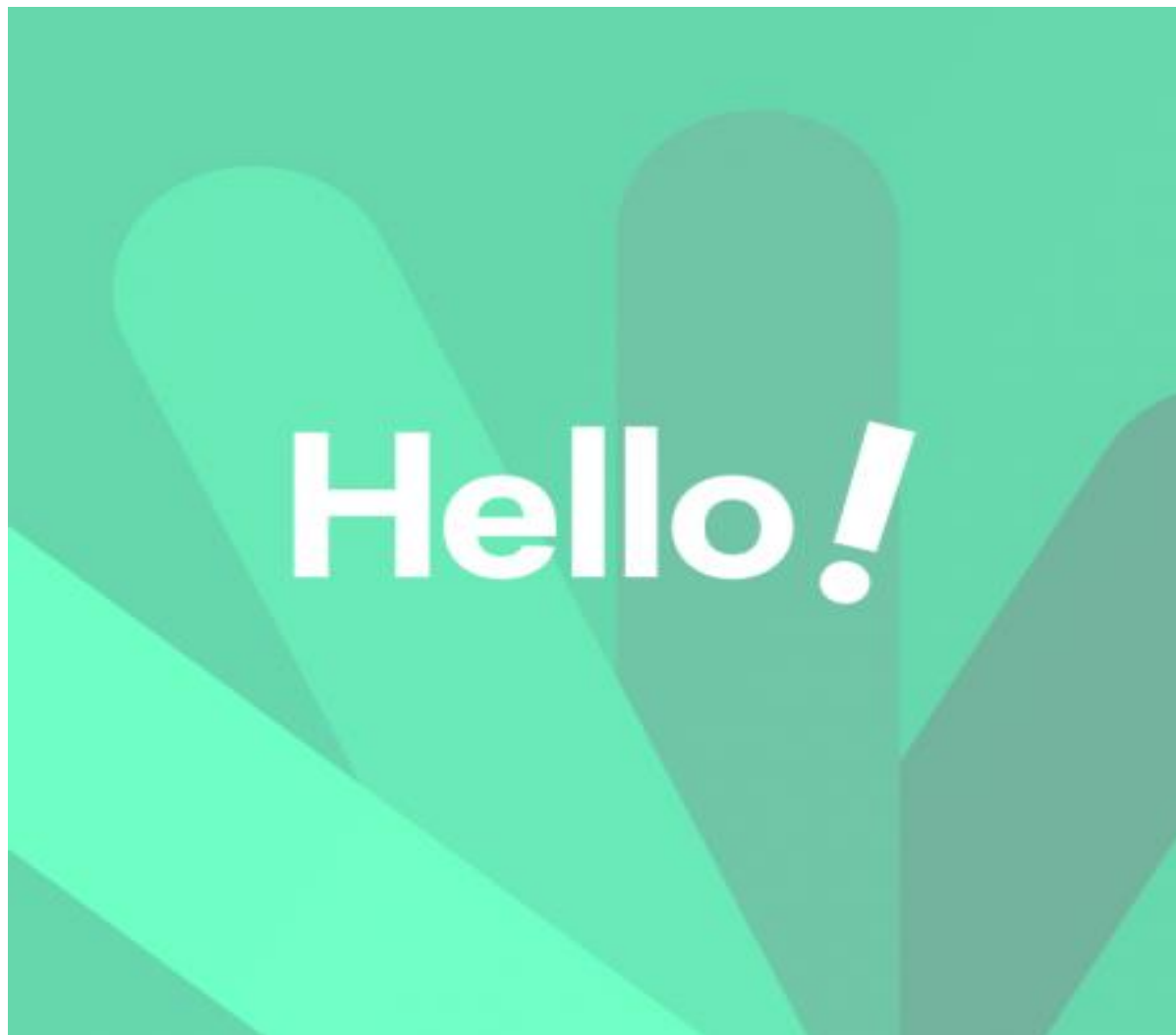
If your coalition has a webpage that you would like to share, please email that to me. Also, feel free to share any success stories that you would like to highlight by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month.

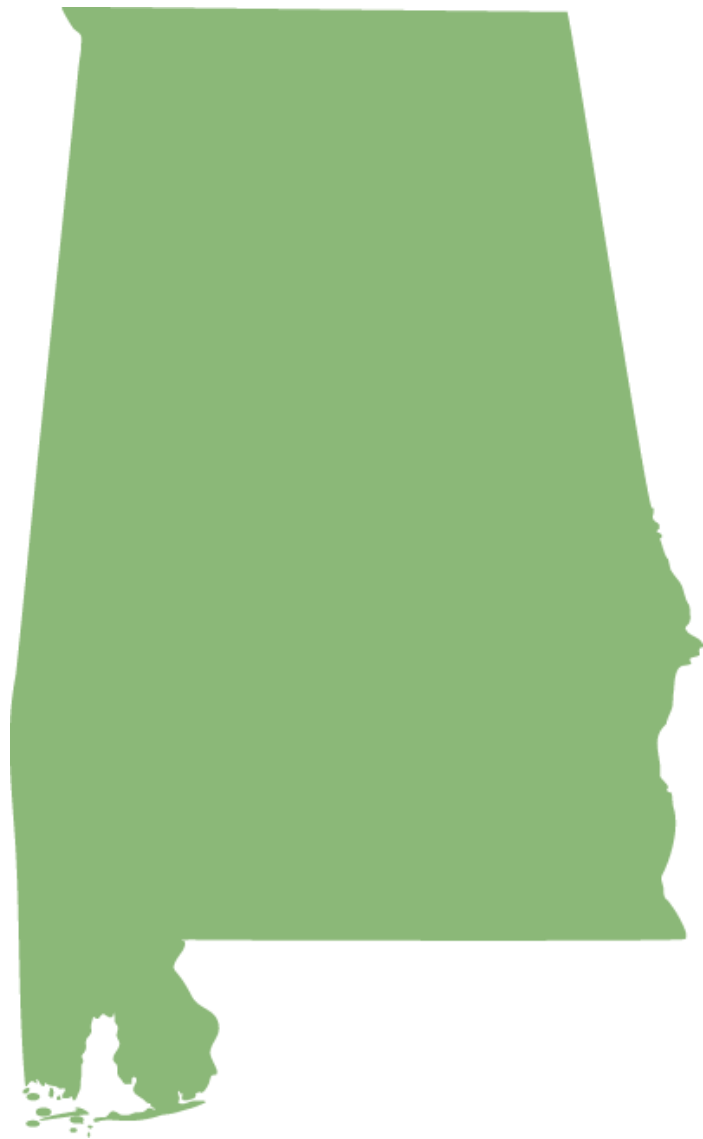
Please note the following DFC reminders:

- For programmatic questions and concerns, feel free to contact me, your assigned Project Officer.
- Contact your assigned Grants Management Specialist (GMS) with questions and concerns regarding day-to-day fiscal and grants management topics. Be sure to CC me on emails for my awareness.
- Include your grant number in the Subject Line of all emails.
- **Notify myself and your GMS of immediate key personnel changes.**
- Continuously check DFC and CARA *Me* to ensure all requirements are met.
- Reach out to peers and other DFC coalitions to seek out solutions, share information, and **COLLABORATE!**

Happy Reading!

~ Bianca





## Alabama Coalitions

- [Addiction Prevention Coalition](#) – Birmingham, AL
- [Alabaster for Tomorrow](#) – Alabaster, AL
- [Children's Policy Council of Dallas County, Alabama Inc.](#) – Selma, AL
- [Drug Free Andalusia](#) – Andalusia, AL
- [Impact Montevallo](#) – Montevallo, AL
- [Safe and Healthy Homewood](#) – Homewood, AL



## Arkansas Coalitions

- [Boone County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition](#) – Harrison, AR
- Cross County Hometown Health Coalition – Wayne, AR
- [Drug-Free Ashley County Coalition](#) – Crossett, AR
- Independence County Hometown Wellness Coalition – Batesville, AR
- Mental Health, Substance and Drug Abuse Coalition – El Dorado, AR
- [NWA Tobacco and Drug Free Coalition](#) – Springdale, AR

# Current Events

- [Adult drug use rose during pandemic, but dropped dramatically in youth, study says](#)
- [Almost half of children who go to ER with mental health crisis don't get the follow-up care they need, study finds](#)
- [Amid Apparent Drop in Drug Overdose Deaths, States See Varied Success](#)
- [Asking teens about suicide may raise odds they'll get help](#)
- [Can Community Programs Help Slow the Rise in Violence?](#)
- [Depression, poor mental health in young adults linked to higher cardiovascular risks](#)
- [FDA advisers vote in favor of making opioid overdose antidote available over the counter](#)
- [How harm reduction advocates are working to prevent fentanyl overdose deaths](#)
- [Mental health apps grow in popularity](#)
- [More kids report vaping cannabis in states where medical marijuana is legal](#)
- [Remaking America: Recovery High Schools And Teens Facing Addiction](#)
- [Suicide rates increase after 2 years of decline, with disparities widening](#)
- [Suicide risk screening in high schools successfully identifies at-risk students](#)
- [Teens, especially girls, are experiencing more violence, suicidal thoughts and mental health challenges, CDC survey finds](#)
- [U.S. House GOP takes aim at fake pills containing deadly fentanyl sold on social media](#)
- [UAMS Researcher Studies Steady Increase in Suicide Rates, Depression for Arkansas' Black Population](#)
- [Xylazine, an animal tranquilizer, is a new threat in the opioid epidemic: What we know](#)

YOU WANT TO DON'T MISS

## Future Happenings

### Deadlines and Deliverables

- **DFC Annual Performance Report (APR)** – The DFC APR for recipients applying for *Support Years 2-5 and 7-10 only* is available via GrantSolutions and is due **March 15, 2023**. Guidance for the APR, which serves as the non-competing continuation application, can be found in GrantSolutions and has been shared via email. The recorded webinar can be found [here](#). *Please reach out anytime with APR questions and concerns.*
- **DFC Competing Continuation Application** – For *Current Year 5* recipients who wish to compete for Year 6 DFC funding, the application has posted via [grants.gov](#). Questions about the application can be emailed to [DFC\\_NOFO@cdc.gov](mailto:DFC_NOFO@cdc.gov). The Competing Continuation Application is due **April 11, 2023**, and recorded webinars can be found [here](#).
- **DFC Progress Report** – The DFC Program is moving into an Annual Progress Reporting cycle. Therefore, the February 2023 Progress Report requirement is being waived. The next report will be due in August 2023 and will cover a reporting period of August 1, 2022, to July 31, 2023. Be sure to check your DFC and CARA *Me* profiles to ensure that all requirements are met. Recipients can begin editing the Annual 2023 Progress Report found in DFC and CARA *Me* and can also use the Data Entry Tool found in the Learning Center.

### Webinars and Conferences

- **Health Equity Summit: A Movement for Justice** – Hosted by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), this hybrid Summit will bring together partners and stakeholders “committed to advancing health and racial equity” and will feature “conversations that inspire action to confront health inequities’ root causes and move towards justice.”

# Articles

- Compton, W., Flannagan, K., Silveira, M., Creamer, M., Kimmel, H., Kanel, M., Blanco, C., & Volkow, N. (2023). Tobacco, Alcohol, Cannabis, and Other Drug Use in the US Before and During the Early Phase of the COVID-19 Pandemic. *JAMA Network Open*, 6(1), 1-11. [doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.54566](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.54566)
- Sun, R., Mendez, D., & Warner, K. (2022). Use of Electronic Cigarettes Among Cannabis-Naive Adolescents and Its Association With Future Cannabis Use. *JAMA Network Open*, 5(7), 1-13. [doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.23277](https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.23277)
- Tanz, L., Dinwiddie, A., Mattson, C., O'Donnell, J., & Davis, N. (2022). Drug Overdose Deaths Among Persons Aged 10–19 Years — United States, July 2019–December 2021. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, 71(50), 1576-1582. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm7150a2>
- Vance, S., Boyer, C., Glidden, D., & Sevelius, J. (2023). Comparing Substance Use and School-Based Stressors Among Black and Latinx Transgender Youth and Peers With Shared Minoritized Identities. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 72(1), 44-50. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2022.08.029>
- Weitzman, E., Wisk, L., Minegishi, M., Cox, R., Lunstead, J., Brogna, M., & Levy, S. (2022). Effects of a Patient-Centered Intervention to Reduce Alcohol Use Among Youth With Chronic Medical Conditions. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, 71(4), S24-S33. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2021.10.017>



#### IM-MUSIC Playlist:

- Beautiful Day – U2
- Not Lucky, I'm Loved – Jonathan McReynolds

#### Project Officer Contact Information:



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**DISCLAIMER:** The Monthly Happenings Gazette is published by Bianca Anderson. THIS IS NOT a CDC, DFC or ONDCP endorsed product, and the views of this gazette do not represent those of CDC, DFC, or ONDCP.

*The harder I work,  
the luckier I get.*