

Becky Ford
Rice County Chemical Health Coalition
507-838-1788

Kathy Sandberg
Rice County Family Service Collaborative
507-210-5151

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On Thursday, January 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Buckham Memorial Library's Great Hall, a community workshop will be held to generate ideas and discuss plans for preventing youth alcohol and other drug use in Faribault. In December, a group of Faribault citizens met to learn more about the local problem of youth substance abuse. Statistics show that by the time Faribault youth reach high school age more than half of them have used alcohol or other drugs. (Faribault Student Survey, 2009)

The community workshop is a result of local citizens wanting to help youth stay alcohol and drug free. The group will spend time examining prevention strategies in the following areas:

- Providing Information
- Building Skills
- Providing Social Support
- Enhancing Access & Reducing Barriers
- Changing Consequences
- Changing the Physical Design
- Changing Rules & Policies

The group's work is funded by a federal Drug Free Communities grant and the Rice County Chemical Health Coalition. Organizers of the group stated, "Our ultimate goal is to form a community group that will join the existing prevention work already going on in Faribault. We have money, we have staff, and we have great partnerships. What we need are individual community members to come forward and help guide our efforts, provide innovative ideas, and participate in this tremendous opportunity!"

Anyone is welcome to attend the community workshop on **Thursday, January 14th 6:30 p.m. at the Buckham Memorial Library's Great Hall**. For more information or to RSVP contact Becky Ford, bky_ford@msn.com or Kathy Sandberg, ksandberg@ricecountychc.com.

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