**National Substance Abuse**

**Prevention Month**

***October 2012***

**About National Substance Abuse Prevention Month**

In 2011, President Obama issued the first-ever Presidential Proclamation designating October National Substance Abuse Prevention Month. This tradition will continue in 2012, with the President issuing a second proclamation.

**What is National Substance Abuse Prevention Month?**

National Substance Abuse Prevention Month is a month-long observance to highlight the role substance abuse prevention plays in promoting safe and healthy communities. In addition, the month provides an important opportunity to pay tribute to the tragic losses attributed to substance abuse.

**Why Recognize National Substance Abuse Prevention Month?**

Substance use, including underage drinking and the non-medical use of prescription and over-the-counter medications, significantly affects the health and well-being of our Nation’s youth and young adults. Stopping use before it begins can increase a person’s chances of living a longer, healthier, and more productive life.

**What Events Will Occur During National Substance Abuse Prevention Month?**

National Substance Abuse Prevention Month will be launched via a Presidential Proclamation issued by the White House in October. The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) will act as a central clearinghouse for all related Federal prevention activities, events, and announcements. In addition, ONDCP will highlight prevention-related activities stakeholder organizations hold throughout the month.

**Where Can I Get More Information?**

ONDCP’s Office of Demand Reduction is coordinating National Substance Abuse Prevention Monthactivities. Please contact Jamila Robinson at jrobinson@ondcp.eop.gov or (202) 395-5595. For further information, please connect to ONDCP’s Prevention Page at http://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/prevention-intro