



# Alliance for Healthy Communities December 6, 2016 meeting agenda 3:30 to 5 PM, Parkway ISC

AHC General Mtgs.  
1st Tuesday/mo.  
3:30 to 5pm  
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**Alliance Vision:** To create a community empowered to make positive choices through knowledge, skills and resources.  
**Alliance Mission:** Engage the community to reduce youth substance abuse and risks for suicide by raising awareness and changing community norms.

**Beginning January 10 2017, AHC general meetings will be held from 4:30 to 6 PM in the library of Parkway Central Middle School**

**3:30 Welcome and Introductions**

**3:35 Announcements**

- **January 10, 2017 NEW LOCATION AND TIME:** Parkway Central Middle School Library, 4:30 to 6pm. In February 2017, AHC will be continuing this location and time on the first Tuesday of each month.
- **AHC Project Coordinator Hired:** Mr. Mark Palmer has been hired as AHC's part-time project coordinator. Mark brings a wealth of youth programming and multimedia skills to AHC. He is attending the New Recipient Training with Ken McManus in Washington D.C. on December 6 in compliance with the DFC Grant requirements. Please plan to meet Mark at our January 10 general meeting.
- **2017 Topic Calendar-** the topics for January through June, 2017 have been finalized and the topic calendar is available at [ahc-stl.org](http://ahc-stl.org).
- **NCADA Calendar and Announcements**.....Lori Krueger

**3:40 Risk Factors Unique to Special Needs Youth.....John Viser, M.A., St. Louis County Special School District**

Parkway schools serve a wide range of disabilities in a number of special education settings. Unfortunately, our students with disabilities are just as susceptible to risk factors for substance abuse as their non-disabled peers. In some instances, their special education status can raise the vulnerability for experiencing these risk factors. This presentation will discuss the idiosyncrasies of the most prevalent disabilities in Parkway Schools, how the trends in those disabilities have changed over time, and what aspects of disabilities lend themselves to specific risk factors. Mr. Viser, currently a special education teacher at Parkway Central High School, has an extensive background working with disabled youth and their families across multiple settings representing the range of demographic groups.

**4:30 Picking Our Battles.....James Meyer, Alliance for Healthy Communities Executive Board**

There are numerous opportunities for AHC and its members to impact local circumstances that enable youth substance abuse. Whether as a collective or through each of us individually, there are actions to be taken that can reduce youth access to alcohol and drugs as well as clarify behavioral norms and expectations. Jim Meyer, a long-standing coalition volunteer, Clarkson Valley Councilman and AHC executive board member, has stepped-up to lead a discussion purposed with targeting issues and strategies for AHC action in 2017.

**5:00 Adjourn- THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE AND SUPPORT**

**Next Meeting: January 10, 2017**  
**Topic: Youth Substance Abuse:**  
**The First Responder Perspective**