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Ohio Students Invited to Virtual Drug-Free “We Are The Majority™ Rally”

Youth-Led Movement Celebrates Majority of Teens Who Do Not Use Drugs, Alcohol

COLUMBUS—Despite what you may hear, the vast majority of teens don’t use drugs or alcohol. In fact, for the past ten years, thousands have joined the movement and marched on the Ohio Statehouse to make people aware of this fact. Prevention Action Alliance, a drug prevention and mental health wellness nonprofit based in Columbus, Ohio, hosts the We Are The Majority™ (WATM) Rally to raise awareness about the fact that the majority of young people do not use drugs or alcohol. In doing so, it hopes to correct the misperception that most teens use drugs, so teens don’t feel pressured to use substances or drink to fit in.

“The truth of the matter is that the majority of young people are making healthy decisions,” said Fran Gerbig, executive director at Prevention Action Alliance. “In fact, many teens get involved in youth-led prevention. They’re making their schools and communities healthier, safer places to live and learn.”

Gerbig said students, teachers, student advisors and others interested in attending the WATM Rally should visit https://preventionactionalliance.org/connect/ohio-youth-led-prevention-network/watm/

This year’s theme, “The Teen Experience: Own Your Power” represents the idea that young people have the ability to make the change they want to see in their lives and the lives of their peers. One way that the theme will tie into this year’s WATM™ Rally is through videos submitted by youth across the state discussing what the teen experience means to them, how adults can be better allies to youth, and what they want the future to look like for youth.

New to this year’s WATM™ Rally are regional watch parties which will be held at five locations across the state. Each watch party will be broadcasting live and featured during the virtual rally. This will allow for a feel similar to past years when the rally was in-person, pre-pandemic. “Our hope is that adults and young people come together at these watch parties to celebrate drug-free youth in their communities,” said Gerbig.

About Prevention Action Alliance and the We Are The Majority™ Rally
Prevention Action Alliance is a 501(c)3 nonprofit based in Columbus, Ohio. It is dedicated to leading healthy communities in the prevention of substance misuse and the promotion of mental health wellness.

The We Are The Majority™ Rally is an event of the Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network at Prevention Action Alliance. The WATM™ Rally raises awareness about and celebrates the fact that the majority of young people do not use drugs or alcohol. OYLPN is a network of youth-led prevention providers in the state of Ohio and includes a Youth Council that plans and leads the WATM™ Rally. The Ohio Youth-Led Prevention Network and the We Are The Majority™ Rally are generously supported by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Learn more about Prevention Action Alliance, OYLPN, and the WATM™ Rally at preventionactionalliance.org.