

STICKER SHOCK: Council Rock teens warn against providing alcohol to minors (VIDEO)

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Adam Bleiman is president of Students Against Destructive Decisions (S.A.D.D.) at Council Rock High School North. He was among a group of students who was involved in Sticker Shock. (Photo by Petra Chesner Schlatter)



RICHBORO - To get the word out to adults about the dangers of supplying alcoholic beverages to minors, a group of teens assembled at the Richboro Beer Distributorship for a second annual campaign entitled. Sticker Shock.

“This program has been done in many states across the country,” said Barbara Gross, a youth coordinator with the Council Rock Coalition for Healthy Youth.

Teens placed stickers on cases of beer, which warn adults who purchase them that buying or serving alcohol to anyone under the age of 21 is illegal.

Gross said it was a good day for the student activity because it is prom time and the summer months are near.

Many of the youths, whom participated, are members of their school's SADD group-Students Against Destructive Decisions. Previously, SADD stood for Students Against Drunk Driving, but now the group is addressing issues such as texting or talking on cell phones while driving.

Gross said it is important for the whole community to know about the students' participation in Sticker Shock. She said the activity is an example of how teens are responsible and pro-active.

"This message is so important," she said.

Donna Foisy, who is also a youth coordinator, said "the CR Coalition works with all the sectors or components that make up our Council Rock community and we do this with the goal of creating the healthiest environment possible to raise our kids."

The coalition has been active for 13 years and is currently one of only 150 national recipients in 2010 to be granted a Drug Free Support Grant to work on making a Drug Free Community.

Its focus is on evaluating and accessing the community so the coalition can be responsive and target drug prevention efforts based on the need shown around the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD).

Student Kristin Webster said she wants her peers "to be safe and abide by the law so that they don't put themselves at harm or anyone else."

Webster said she is involved in the Sticker Shock project because it helps create awareness for adults to help their children and their friends make the wise decision to avoid alcohol.

"I am hoping as many adults as possible choose not to buy alcohol for their underage kids and that my peers stay safe and have a good time without alcohol," she said. "If even one parent makes the choice to avoid the purchase of alcohol for teens, then this project helped."

If she were to talk with a peer about their alcohol use, Webster said she would tell them that it is ultimately their decision to make. "But I would tell them that I really care about them and to stay young for now," she said.

"Their well-being is most important to me," she continued. "Poor judgment and bad decisions can come from drinking too much alcohol and I would like them to avoid that risk."

Lauren Foisy said knowing that my peers are involving themselves in destructive behaviors really has her on edge.

"It's like they're throwing away life experiences and chances they could be doing sober," she said. "Instead, they're doing it drunk and not remembering anything at all or anyone they might have hurt while they were 'having a fun time being wasted.'"

Foisy said she is involved with projects because she hates standing by and watching her own friends and classmates do these things to themselves.

"I hope any effort that is taken into effect makes a difference to everyone, but I hope that my actions will open eyes to the facts," she said.

To someone who was involving themselves and using alcohol, she would ask them if they knew what they were getting themselves into. “They

obviously don’t know what they are doing otherwise they wouldn’t be using such an addictive substance,” Foisy said.

“Just knowing what something can do to you prepares you more than waking up the next morning thinking, ‘I shouldn’t drive a car when I get drunk next time,’ from a hospital bed,” she said.

Foisy wants her peers to know their facts when it comes to their health and others’ mental and physical [well-being](#).

The CR Coalition works with all the sectors or components that make up the Council Rock community. The goal is to create the healthiest environment possible to raise kids. For more information, contact the coalition at CRCHY@crsd.org