



**TEXAS ALLIANCE
FOR DRUG ENDANGERED CHILDREN**

Rescue. Defend. Shelter. Support.

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TADEC INSIDER

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TADEC Trains in Hunt County

The Texas Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (TADEC) conducted two trainings in Greenville in February. Over the course of two days and four three-hour sessions, TADEC trained over 250 Hunt County professionals from a variety of agencies.

Several trainers new to TADEC gave the presentations and did a wonderful job educating about the plight of Drug Endangered Children. We would like to thank our trainers and everyone who came out to the trainings for their dedicated and important work, and a special thanks to DrugFree Greenville for organizing both trainings.



TADEC Local Leaders Forum

When starting, building or sustaining a local DEC alliance, it can often seem like an uphill and isolated journey. The reality, though, is that hundreds of professionals from a multitude of disciplines are working all over Texas to protect and intervene on behalf of children exposed to volatile drug environments. The challenge is that there is little opportunity for them to connect outside of their local area.

To that end, we are happy to announce the launch of the TADEC Local Leaders Forum. The easy-to-use forum operates much like other message boards, and allows professionals from every part of the state to connect, organize and troubleshoot. The forum is a great way to find other interested multidisciplinary professionals from your own area to start your own DEC effort, to inquire about how others are doing if you are just getting your DEC effort started, or to share ideas, setbacks and success stories with other DEC alliances that are off and running.

To register for the free forum, simply go to <http://tadec.ipbfree.com/index.php?act=Reg&CODE=00> directly, or go to the forum itself at <http://tadec.ipbfree.com> and click on "Register" near the top. Then enter a username, password, and e-mail address, enter the security code, and check the box below the terms of service before submitting. You should receive a confirmation e-mail shortly after. If you have questions about registering, please do not hesitate to contact Justin Mazzeo at jmazzeo@gdcada.org or 214-522-4999 ext. 256.

Note: If you are from a county not listed on the forum, please e-mail jmazzeo@gdcada.org or make a post on the "Website Requests" section of the forum and your county will be added.

Monthly Conference Call

As part of our continuing effort to encourage communication and the sharing of resources among local DEC alliances, TADEC has instituted a monthly conference call.

The monthly call will offer the opportunity for local DEC leaders to share challenges, ideas and insights from their own experiences. It will also allow local DEC alliances to stay apprised of any and all DEC-related developments on the state and national levels.

The first call is scheduled for **Thursday, April 9 at 10:00 AM.**

If you plan to be on the call, please RSVP to jmazzeo@gdcada.org to receive the toll-free phone number and pass code.



Next Quarterly Meeting

The next TADEC state-wide quarterly meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 26 at 2:00 PM** at the Greater Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse office at **4525 Lemmon Ave., Ste. 300, Dallas, TX 75219.**

The purpose of quarterly meetings is to bring representatives from local DEC efforts together to discuss unique issues teams are facing and share problem solving ideas, discuss ideas to better build DEC efforts, and update members as to the latest research and data available.

Please note: Registration for this meeting is currently closed as of March 12, 2009.

Post-Collaboration Assessment

As more DEC alliances are established and grow across the state, collecting uniform data has become increasingly difficult and all the more important. TADEC has developed a tool to collect this data to the benefit of local alliances. **We ask that as law enforcement and CPS collaborate within a local DEC alliance that a representative of that alliance complete and submit these forms monthly to TADEC.**

The forms allow us as a state alliance to see which issues are recurring and where solutions are being developed across the entire state - and share them with those who need them.

They also help TADEC tweak our training curriculum to be more specific to the local needs across the state. Lastly, providing these assessments to TADEC allows us to demonstrate outcomes for funding purposes and allows us to continue to provide training, technical assistance and other support for DEC efforts free of charge across the state.

The assessment can be downloaded at <http://www.texasdec.org>, or requested via e-mail via jmazzeo@gdcada.org.

Trainings Available by Request

As our 2009 DEC Training curriculum has been finalized and our Train the Trainer completed, we would like to remind you that trainings and technical support are available upon request.

Our most commonly-requested training is our General DEC awareness training. This training defines what Drug Endangered Children and Volatile Drug Environments are, describes various drugs and paraphernalia and their various signs and symptoms, describes a basic law enforcement / CPS joint investigation and the difference in their roles, describes medical, prosecution, prevention and treatment considerations regarding Drug Endangered Children, and describes the psychosocial implications for Drug Endangered Children and strategies of dealing with children removed from Volatile Drug Environments.

We will tailor DEC trainings for your specific circumstances regardless of audience, time constraints, or the status of your local DEC alliance. From getting local leadership interested to training front-line workers to going through concrete steps to sustain an alliance, we are available to help you every step of the way as you build your local DEC alliance.

