



Every Brain Matters Community Newsletter March 2022

Every Brain Matters is a community of support and advocacy based on science and experience. **Join us** as we call for a cultural change with the widespread use of our logo, which unites us and symbolizes "freedom from marijuana" and optimal brain and environmental health. The public has been deceived and misled regarding the effects of marijuana products, leading to a public health crisis. No matter what decisions are made or how much the drug culture expands, we will "Keep On Keepin' On," because we wholeheartedly know that **Every Brain Matters**.

Spotlight

It's important that we understand what are drug prevention policies, drug promotions policies and drug recovery policies. Read the article below to understand legalizing drugs promotes more addiction.

We oppose policies that work to promote, normalize, and commercialize more drug use.

As a country, we must urgently focus only on drug prevention policies and recovery policies.

CALL TO ACTION: Tell Congress to Protect Our Families from Synthetic THC Variants Derived from Hemp! Share this Ad!

Send this letter to congress today!

Education

We have 3 short educational videos: 6 min, 3 min, and 2 minute options.

Dr. Libby Stuyt was one of the proponents of a bill in Colorado to protect youth by regulating high-potency THC concentrates. The videos on this page show how much an 18-year-old with a medical marijuana card could purchase before the new law HB21-1317 and how much they still can today. With expert narration by Dr. Stuyt, these short videos will open your eyes.

Narrated by Dr. Libby Stuyt
3 short educational videos: 6 min, 3 min, 2 min

Family Voices and Resources

Access All Family Resources Access All Recovery Questions

Testimonies

The effects of marijuana, and other drugs, are real and increasing. We are here for those who want to share their testimonies.

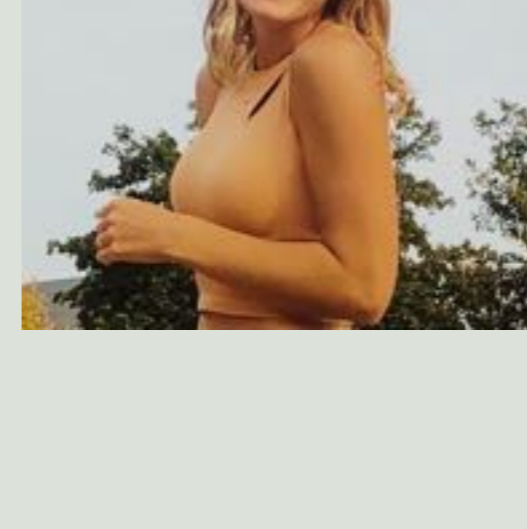
I've been running an MA meeting every Monday night for over nine years now without relapsing. I need this weekly meeting to stay clean from marijuana, and I need to stay clean in order to run this meeting.

Share your testimony Access all testimonies

The Truth From Youth

Kids Vape Marijuana.

Kids vape marijuana. How does this sentence make you feel? Does it give you goosebumps or do you move on feeling unbothered? Personally, it breaks my heart. Why? Because it is accurate. It is happening every day and it is not being addressed. We live in a society where kids are pressured into wanting a high. Rolling a joint and smoking it comes with too much baggage. The smell is potent and joints are not easily accessible. A vape or a dab pen offers a high without the hassle. You can carry it on you at all times and it has minimal smell. It is an easy way to get more extreme high quicker and without being caught. Picture a boy in class. He hits his vape and then offers it to his classmate. It gets passed around and now all these kids have THC in their system while the teacher is turned to the board. It is quick, easy, and thrilling. This is what happens. I have seen it happen. We need to open up our eyes to reality. Every kid is being put in these situations where one mistake could drastically change their life. Addiction is real and too many kids are experiencing it at young ages with these new vapes. Advocate and educate to help our younger generation realize life is more than a high.



Hannah Palmer, Youth Coordinator & Social Media Administrator

Advocacy Action

The citizens of Oklahoma defeated State Question 820, the ballot measure that would have legalized recreational marijuana. This is the latest of a series of wins for public health, including the defeating of legalization in Arkansas, South Dakota, and North Dakota, as well as several state legislatures rejecting marijuana.

"Today's rejection of marijuana is a huge win for public health, public safety, and common sense," said Dr. Kevin Sabet, President of SAM Action. "The historic results of tonight's election show that the industry cannot buy votes and profit off our kids. Despite being vastly outspent by the industry and its allies, our coalition partners in Oklahoma worked tirelessly to educate voters about the unintended consequences of legalization, ranging from more incidents of impaired driving and workplace accidents to higher youth use rates. Following the roll-out of medical marijuana in Oklahoma—which led to the unprecedented outgrowth of the state's illicit market—voters were about to see firsthand how the liberalization of our drug laws routinely fails to deliver as promised."

April 20, 2023 Washington, D.C.

The **2023 Summit & Good Drug Policy Conference** will be held on **April 20th** in Washington, DC at the historic **Miracle Theatre**. We will bring together powerful voices in drug policy from across the field, such as prevention, treatment, recovery, and law enforcement experts to amplify our collective work to scale up the work of scientists and practitioners. We've invited current and former staff who served Presidential administrations as well as Members of Congress.

Get Tickets Here

Courageous Families

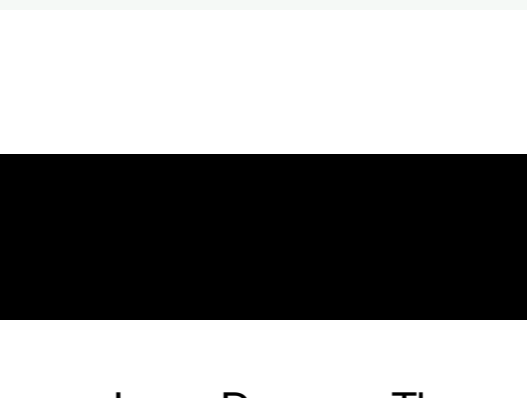
Members of the Every Brain Matters community joined Representative Lauren Davis and the Smart Approach to Marijuana and Parent Action Network team to support a potency cap bill in Washington state.

We thank Mary Maas and her husband, Heidi Anderson-Swan and her sister support a potency cap bill in Washington state.

The Danielson family also support Rep Lauren Davis potency cap bill

Legislators could do well to listen to those with firsthand experience of the perils, including Don Danielson, who testified about the death of his adult son from cannabis hyperemesis syndrome, or CHS.

"He was found unresponsive after suffering a seizure brought on by extreme dehydration that damaged multiple organs. And this was well after he quit cannabis. The medical examiner even found no THC in his system," Danielson told the committee. "If you think we're an outlier to the larger issue of psychosis from marijuana, you're wrong."



In The News

Vaping CBD Causes More Severe Lung Damage Than Vaping Nicotine, Roosevelt Park Study Shows

- Vaping CBD linked to increased inflammation & oxidative stress vs. nicotine
- Health effects evident after short-term exposure
- Findings underscore importance of asking patients about all forms of smoking

Vaping nicotine, THC may increase depression, anxiety in young adults: study

"This study showed the striking significance of issues with mental health in users of both nicotine vapes as well as THC vapes, and as new products continue to come on the market, it is something that we will continue to see," said Dr. Loren Wiss, who served as the writing committee lead for the American Heart Association's 2022 Statement on Cardiovascular Consequences of Vaping in Adolescents.



More young Colorado children are consuming marijuana despite efforts to stop them

The number of children — especially very young ones — ingesting marijuana is rising in Colorado despite regulations meant to keep edibles out of kids' hands. State leaders said they have no plans to revisit those rules this year.

Every Brain Matters In The News

Increasing awareness of youth mental health

Audree Adams has spent the last four years as a host mom for youth in recovery, and shares how she has seen first-hand the impact of drugs on youth's mental health.

"These teens are severely, severely depressed, and it takes a whole team of not only professionals, but friends and families to surround that teen and make sure they're safe until their brain can heal," Adams said. "Sometimes it takes years for them to heal."

Is there a link between a public health crisis, developing brains, and cannabis?

A Colorado non profit organization and pain medicine specialist weigh in

"I have families calling me every day in a crisis, 'my teen, my child, my young adult is addicted to marijuana. It's making them psychotic. They're sick, they're vomiting, and they're arguing with me that it's natural, that it's medicine, and we don't know what to do,'" said Aubree Adams, Director of Every Brain Matters, a non profit organization in Colorado that offers community support based on science and lived experiences in response to the expanding drug culture in developing minds.

A Moment of Science

2022 August United States marijuana legalization and opioid mortality epidemic during 2010-2020 and pandemic implications. Instead of supporting the marijuana protection hypothesis, ecologic associations at the national level suggest that marijuana legalization has contributed to the U.S.'s opioid epidemic in all major races/ethnicities, and especially in blacks. If so, the increased use of marijuana during the 2020-2022 pandemic may thereby worsen the country's opioid crisis.

2023 February: The acute effects of cannabis with and without cannabidiol in adults and adolescents: A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled crossover experiment. Adolescent cannabis users are neither more resilient nor more vulnerable than adult cannabis users to the acute psychotomimetic, memory-impairing, or subjective effects of cannabis. Furthermore, in adolescents and adults, vaporized cannabidiol does not mitigate the acute harms caused by delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol.

2023 March State Cannabis Legalization and Cannabis Use Disorder in the US Veterans Health Administration 2005 to 2019. In this study of VHA patients, Medical Cannabis Laws and Recreational Cannabis Laws enactment played a significant role in the overall increases in CUD prevalence, particularly in older patients.

2023 March Cannabis legalization and cannabis use, daily cannabis use and cannabis-related problems among adults in Ontario, Canada (2001-2019)

- Prevalence increased of cannabis use (11 %–26 %) and daily cannabis use (1 %–6 %) between 2001 and 2019.
- Prevalence increased of cannabis-related problems (6 %–14 %) between 2004 and 2019.
- Cannabis legalization was associated with higher odds of cannabis use.
- Cannabis legalization was associated with higher odds of daily cannabis use.
- Cannabis legalization was associated with higher odds of cannabis-related problems among those ≥55 years.

Support Meetings

Paul Chabot is a former US Congressional candidate from California who is now living in Texas. He is retired from law enforcement and runs a counter-terrorism consulting firm while serving in the Navy Reserves at the rank of Commander. He is an author, an adjunct professor, and has a doctorate in leadership. Paul is married with four children.

Paul worked in the White House and Office of National Drug Control Policy and later served as Commissioner for the California Parole Board.

He founded the **Coalition for a Drug-Free California**, and since moving to Texas, he has established the **Coalition for a Drug-Free Texas**. Paul is a national speaker, having presented in 48 states.

Paul is passionate about keeping kids off drugs and fighting against drug legalization. He went through drug rehab in his youth and has over 35 years of sobriety and drug prevention experience.

Learn more

Every Brain Matters Climbers Family Support Group. An interactive educational group for family members to bring issues, questions or concerns, and receive direct feedback from a trained counselor and other families. Learn tools of recovery to help you and your family.

Learn More



Mar-anon, a 12-Step program designed for those affected by another's marijuana use.

Advocacy Meetings

Every Brain Matters Advocacy Group

This group has been created for those who want to advocate against full-scale legalization of marijuana and for strict regulation and preventative measures in areas where this drug is already legal.

Learn More

A Moment of Silence

Remembering and honoring the people that we have lost due to the normalization and commercialization of marijuana. Do you want to memorialize and honor a loved one in the Every Brain Matters community? **Learn more**

March Remembrance:

Andy Zorn - March 1, 2014

Aaron Reddy - March 27, 2019

Matthew Pontefract - March 31, 2020

March Heavenly Birthdays:

Garrett Craig - March 2, 2000

Helen MacDougall - March 2, 2001

March Marijuana related impaired-driving deaths:

March 9, 2019 - **Joy Tyus 28** and **Pierre Shelton**, 30 - Illinois

March 15, 2019 - **Danielle Thomas**, 16 - Illinois

March 16, 2018 - **Isabelle Gonzalez**, 16 - California

March 16, 2018 - **Brandon Hunsberger** - California

March 16, 2020 - **Christopher Blunt**, 22 - Colorado

March 27, 2016 - **Amanda Walzer**, 43 - California

March 16, 2016 - **Thomas Clardy**, 44 - Massachusetts

March 19, 2017 - **Alexis-Danielle Brown Johnson**, 15 - Michigan

March 8, 2018 - **Sherry Rodriguez**, 41 - Martin Rodriguez, 41 - Jaime Vidal Pelayo, 30 - Washington

March 30, 2019 - **Mikayla Gulle**, 19 - New York

March 19, 2019 - **Brian Hughes**, 5 - Virginia

March 27, 2021 - **Porscha Branch 28, Drake House, 7 months, Messiah House 2, King House, 5 - Texas**

March 23, 2020 - **Aldyanni Lewis**, 33 - New Hampshire.

March 14, 2017 - **Destinee Wheeler 15, Darion Wheeler, Paul McEwan 20** - Wyoming.

View Memorial Group Here

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