





Montcalm County Volunteers

	<p>Andrea Krause</p> <p>Andrea has worked in the Montcalm County Prosecutor's Office for 20 years. The last 11 years as the elected Prosecuting Attorney. Andrea was originally from Grosse Pointe, a suburb of Detroit, but has chosen to make Montcalm County her home along with her husband of 12 years and their son.</p> <p>Andrea has handled all kinds of cases from simple assault and battery to murder. She has extensive experience in all courts (Circuit Court, Probate Court and District Court) in the county. Andrea believes substance abuse is a serious problem in Montcalm County as most cases that come before her have some type of substance abuse issue. She is committed to the Montcalm Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking because this is a proactive approach to eliminate underage drinking and hopefully to reduce the number of cases involving substance abuse issues.</p>
	<p>Carl Paepke</p>
	<p>David Dowd</p> <p>My name is David Dowd. I am an active Boy Scout of Lakeview troop 95, currently working on my Eagle rank. I am also an active member of the Lakeview High School Band. I play the saxophone. I am on the Lakeview track team, also. I am 16 and a sophomore. I also attend the Crazy Teens for Christ Youth Group of Cowden Lake Christian Church. I hope to attend Ferris State University and major in criminal justice. I am a member of MCPUD because I like to raise awareness of alcohol and tobacco use among teens and because it goes along with my career path. I hope to complete my Eagle Project with the Montcalm Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking.</p>
	<p>Donna Webster</p>
	<p>Doris Case</p>

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Jill Worden



John Kroneck



I have lived in the Montcalm Area since 1979 and worked as a substance abuse prevention specialist since 1985. Prevention is an exciting field to be in because the focus is on building the positive aspects of life. This is true at a personal level and well as with entire communities.

With five children of my own I have an appreciation that every child is very special with his or her own talents and interests. Working with MCPUD gives us a chance to create a healthier environment for our children to explore their interests and encourage their successes.






Kari Gulvas

Kathryn Hewett


I am married and have two children. I have also been a schools social worker at Lakeview Community Schools for the past 11 years. I joined MCPUD because I believe that as a community we can do more to prevent underage drinking. I have seen the negative affects of drug and alcohol use and abuse on families. I believe that our though deserve a health and happy future, and that, as adults, it is our responsibility to make sure the have this opportunity.

I also jointed MCPUD to support he efforts of my teenage son who believes that buy providing youth more positive alternative activities, they will be less inclined to use alcohol or other drugs. He has chose to work with MCPUD to bring more awareness to his high school, as well as to earn his Eagle Scout

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	Rank.
	<p>Kim Alexander</p>
	<p>Kim Singh</p>
	<p>Mike Haefner. I am from the "Gateway to the Midwest", St. Louis, Missouri. I have lived there for more than three decades. While there, I received my Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Social Work from the University of Missouri-Columbia (MIZZOU). After doing in-home family therapy for 11 years, God put the call to be a pastor on my heart. As I pursued God's call to Chicago, I met my wife, Keri; began a family, Aaron (4 1/2); completed four units of hospital chaplain training; and graduated from North Park Theological Seminary with my Masters of Divinity. Currently, I serve as the Associate Pastor at First Congregational Church in Greenville.</p> <p>I joined the Montcalm Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking because irresponsible drinking as adults and drinking of any kind as minors prohibits one from being everything that God has created them to be. Trust me!! God has great things in store for us. It says in Jeremiah, "For I know the plans that I have for you," declares God, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jer. 29:11)</p>
	<p>Denise Hubbard has served as the Executive Director for the United Way of Montcalm County since 1999. Under her leadership, United Way developed Montcalm Volunteer Connections, a Volunteer Center serving Montcalm County. Volunteer Connections has become a key support system for the county, implementing Montcalm's Promise, a Medical Reserve Corps grant, and VISTA projects in Homeland Security and Asset Development, in addition to mobilizing about 600 volunteers each year.</p> <p>Her reasons for involvement with the Coalition are two-fold: As the United Way Director, she tries to be involved in initiatives that will impact the health and human services for the residents of Montcalm County. The Prevention of Under-Age Drinking is an important initiative to ensure that our youth grow</p>

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	<p>up to be healthy, productive, active citizens. Secondly, as you can see from her bio, she has worked for several years as the coordinator for the Drug-Free Schools Program in the Wexford-Missaukee area. As a rural community, one of the biggest ‘drugs’ of choice for youth is alcohol. Her background and experience in this field makes her sensitive and knowledgeable about the MCPUD initiative.</p>
	<p>Patti Warmington</p>
	<p>Brian DeKraker, MSW has worked for the Department of Human Resources for 32 years as a Child Welfare worker, supervisor, program manager, and peer reviewer. He retired from this agency in 2002. His experience spanned the entire spectrum of services offered by the agency, but most of his time was spent in the Children’s Services area. The Foster Care, Community Corrections, and Child Protective Services programs are areas of exceptional expertise.</p> <p>He currently is working in the Eight-CAP Head Start program as the Male Involvement Coordinator on a part-time basis. He began this position in March, 2003, and was instrumental in starting the fatherhood program for the agency. In this capacity he has lead retreats and taught classes on fathering. He has also provided one-on-one mentoring to many fathers and their families in the course of his employment.</p> <p>Mr. DeKraker has an MSW degree from Western Michigan University in the treatment area. He has participated in panel discussions, presenting workshops, arranging seminars, and teaching classes as part of his professional work. He is trained in Mark Pearlman’s MA & PA and Nurturing Fathers curriculum, and has taught from other curriculums as well.</p> <p>He and his wife, Barbara, have raised four boys, who now range in age from 35 to 23, and enjoy their five grandchildren to the fullest. As such, he has a wealth of stories and parenting experiences that he can share with workshop participants. I believe that problem drinking is behind many of our societal problems today. I believe that families and careers are torn apart by domestic violence, drinking related automobile accidents, and crimes committed while under the influence of drugs and alcohol. And, I believe many problem drinkers began their love affair with alcohol while they were minors. We need to address the problem where it starts – underage drinking. That is why I joined the Coalition.</p>

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Terry Reeves

I became involved with the Montcalm Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking (MCPUD) from the beginning. I was involved in the Substance Abuse Advisory Council which is who planned a summit around the question, “What can Montcalm County residents do to prevent underage drinking in this community?”

Because I am the TIPs (Training for Intervention Procedures) instructor for J & H Family Stores, I have always been an advocate for “responsible” sales of alcohol. I felt my involvement in the Summit would be another way to promote responsible sales of alcohol throughout the county as opposed to just our business. Many retailers are frustrated by the attempts of underage people to purchase alcohol. Another frustration is the fines levied when an employee makes a mistake or simply fails to follow Michigan laws. Further complicated matters for the retailer are those who are old enough to purchase, and are doing so for those underage. This is a far more difficult situation to control. Training programs teach sellers about the laws and the techniques to avoid illegal sales of alcohol. The Montcalm Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking ultimately evolved from the Summit which was held in late 2007, and I am a proud member. I believe all retailers can make a difference if they choose, and should support the efforts of MCPUD.



Eldon Hirschy