

Southwest



REGIONAL ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2018

Updates & Announcements

ADVOCACY

Track Your Advocacy Efforts

Many of you responded to a 2017 year-end request for advocacy. Thank YOU! We also will track Clubs' 2018 advocacy efforts that may include your participation at Legislative Day, a tour of your Club by a Member of Congress or state legislator. It might also include using social media to advocate on behalf of your Club and community impact. Will we soon connect you with a means for reporting those advocacy touchpoints, so keep track of all efforts.

National Day of Advocacy in D.C. a Success

Thanks to strong participation, we had the strongest turnout ever in March at National Day of Advocacy and impressive presence on Capitol Hill. About 200 Clubs from 43 states met with over half of Congress to deliver targeted messages on funding for 21st Century CLC, OJP, workforce development and opioid prevention. The timing was perfect as lawmakers were making critical budget decisions for federal fiscal year 2018.

FY18 Federal Appropriations: Key Successes

Our GR staff in Washington, DC, reported recent federal funding successes:

- Youth Mentoring - \$94m, up \$14M, targeting at-risk youth impacted by opioid crisis
- 21st Century CLC: \$1.211B, up from \$1.197B
- HHS/SAMHSA - \$1B for substance abuse prevention & treatment block grants (*more information to come on roll-out of these funds to states*)

Funding Trends Highlight

States in the Southwest region are working a number of potential funding opportunities that include the following:

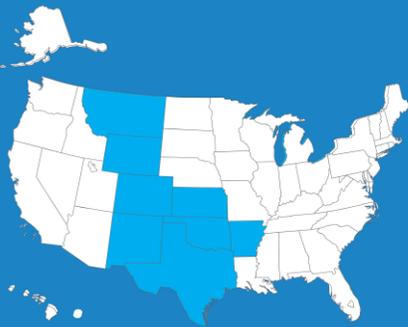
Wyoming and New Mexico – Submitted applications to respective Departments of Transportation for SMART Moves and events associated with safe driving

Kansas – Pursuing a legislative effort to double TANF funds that support kids' literacy and prevention programs

Colorado – Working with other youth development organizations to support legislative effort aimed at establishing a dedicated opioid youth prevention fund

Arkansas – In discussions with State Drug Director for opportunity to be included in next federal funding stream addressing youth opioid prevention

Texas – Met recently with Criminal Justice Division to discuss future program options and funding sources, such as Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds



Save the Date!

May 1
Alliance Directors
Meeting
San Diego

(Day before BGCA
National Conference)

*State Alliance Directors
and staff share best
practices on successful
funding strategies*

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Kansas YOY candidates with Governor Jeff Colyer, MD

YOY Meet with Governors – Reinforce Impact of Club Experiences

Kansas Legislative Day – YOY met Governor Colyer in his office, talked with their legislators and were introduced on the House and Senate floor.

Arkansas Legislative Day – YOY met with the Governor, and more than 50 legislators joined YOY and Club leaders at the annual YOY Legislative Luncheon.

Wyoming Day at the Capitol – Governor Matt Mead signs proclamation (*below*) recognizing Clubs & YOY candidates.



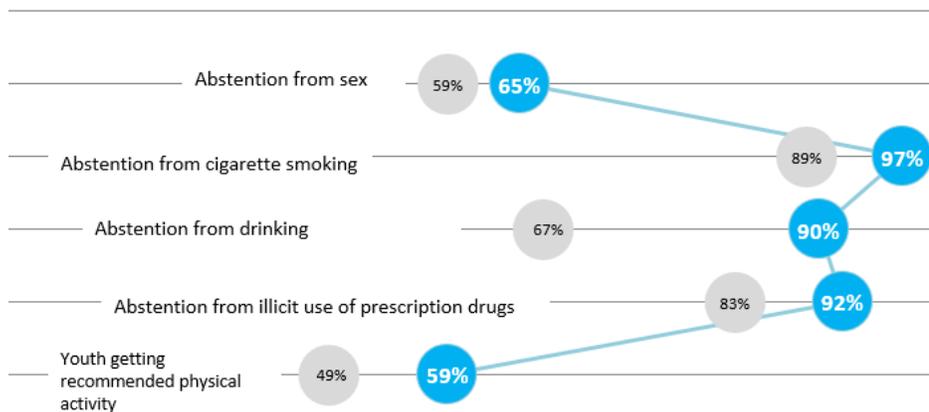
Arkansas YOY participants with Governor Asa Hutchison.



Note: Oklahoma Legislative Day scheduled for April 18



Alliance Best Practices – Using Data



How is your Alliance using data? Funders are drawn to the collective impact of our Clubs when we all work together. BGCA's marketing web platform allows Clubs to create useful resources, including the Impact Report (featured above). Using NYOI with statewide data increases our ability to tell a cohesive story – such as YRBS prevention (see bubble chart). As you meet with elected officials make sure you use the best info available to support your case!