

THE COALITION CONNECTION



Monthly Newsletter of the South Mountain W.O.R.K.S Coalition

UPCOMING TEAM MEETINGS/EVENTS

POLICY & SUSTAINABILITY
JUNE 7TH | 10:30AM-11:30AM

COALITION MEETING
JUNE 11TH | 10:00AM-11:30AM

EVENT & ACTIVITIES
JUNE 15TH | 2:30PM-3:00PM

PUBLIC RELATIONS
JUNE 16TH | 12PM-1PM

TRAUMA INFORMED COMMUNITY
JUNE 18TH | 2:00PM-3:30PM

SOUTH PHOENIX HARM REDUCTION
JUNE 26TH | 2:00PM-3:30PM

YOUTH COUNCIL:
PLANNING & RECRUITING FOR FALL MEETING

JUNETEENTH
JUNE 19TH | 5:00PM-10:00PM

FIND MEETINGS AND EVENTS LINKS HERE:
[HTTPS://LINKTR.EE/SOUTH_MOUNTAIN_WORKS](https://linktr.ee/south_mountain_works)



Summer Sessions & Connections

BY SHOMARI JACKSON, MPA

Summer is finally here! But not only is it a time to have fun, vacation and relax for many it is a time, May is usually a busy month filled with celebrations, anticipation of high temperatures and much-needed family vacations. It's humbling to think of how far we have come since March 2020. As more people are becoming vaccinated, the possibility of safely returning to in-person gatherings is within our grasp.

In the coming months, the Coalition will be offering more opportunities to meet and safely engage with the community we serve. Safety being a priority, we encourage you to reengage in those activities you enjoyed before the pandemic. Whether it is hiking South Mountain or getting a cup of coffee at Azucar, the South Phoenix community is waiting.

I am excited for all that the Coalition has planned and meeting you all in person soon. Thank you all for your commitment to the SMWORKS Coalition.

COALITION SPOTLIGHT (COMING SOON)



SOUTH MOUNTAIN WORKS

SOUTH MOUNTAIN WORKS CAMPAIGN
TAKE ACTION, TAKE CHARGE AND PREVENT
YOUTH ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE.

WWW.SOUTHMOUNTAINWORKS.ORG



Drug Take Back

BY KARA JEAN BREI

On April 24th, 2021, South Mountain W.O.R.K.S. Coalition partnered with AZ State Bikes, the Phoenix Police Department, the Arizona National Guard, and Walgreens for the first 2021 DEA National Drug Take Back Event at two separate Walgreens locations in South Phoenix. Altogether in the city of Phoenix we collected about 900 pounds of prescription medication. Putting our local year to date collection at over 600 pounds of prescription medication that our youth won't be able to experiment with.

Supporting this year was new coalition partners, AZ State Bikes, whose mission is to build low-rider bikes with youth as a way to help keep them safe and productive. Oscar Gonzalez, founder of AZ State Bikes, not only brought out the low-rider bikes (as well as cars) but also the grill to share food with community folks who stopped by. This was our first, of hopefully many, partnered events with AZ State Bikes.

The event was highly successful with Phoenix Police taking the medicine to be destroyed and the National Guard distributing Naloxone nasal spray (an overdose reversal medication). The SMWORKS coalition volunteers provided resources to families and engaged the local un-housed population with resources and food as well. The next drug take back will be in April and reoccurring quarterly. For locations on where to dispose of your unused or expired medication please visit <https://azdhs.gov/gis/rx-drop-off-locations/index.php>.

"This was a massive success in South Mountain W.O.R.K.S. efforts to engage the local community"

Kara Jean Brei
CO-CHAIR



SOUTH MOUNTAIN WORKS COALITION MISSION:
TO EDUCATE, EQUIP, AND EMPOWER
COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO CREATE A DRUG FREE
FUTURE FOR CHILDREN YOUTH AND FAMILIES.

COALITION CONNECTION | PAGE 2

SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE:
VISIT, LIKE & SHARE



@SOUTHMOUNTAINWORKS



@SOUTH_MOUNTAIN_WORKS



@SMWORKS_1



WWW.SOUTHMOUNTAINWORKS.ORG