



NEWS RELEASE

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Area Youth 'Chat it Up' About Prescription Drug Abuse

Omaha, Neb.-Students throughout the metro area came together on Tuesday evening to discuss the growing problem of prescription drug abuse in the community. The townhall, sponsored by the LiveWise Coalition in partnership with Christ Cathedral Church, was lead by student panelists who discussed the reality of prescription drug abuse in their lives.

The evening began with remarks from Sergeant Jarell Roach with the Nebraska National Guard's Counter-Drug Task Force. According to Roach "Young people have a critical perspective for creating solutions to grave issues such as this. As we combat prescription drug abuse they must be part of the conversation."

LiveWise Project Director Dawinna Hill believes the recent stories regarding prescription drug abuse are shedding light on a major growing problem. "We need to take these opportunities and more to have candid conversations about the reality of these substances in our communities. Tonight's comments from young people reinforces that prescription drugs are here and we need action," Hill said.

The presentation concluded with remarks from Mike Donahue of R5 Productions. Donahue reinforced the notion of positive decision making and the impact those decisions can have on young people. Donahue says "students know the difference between good and bad decisions. For those engaged in bad decisions we need to reconnect them with their dream, giving them reason to seek help."

The LiveWise Coalition is a group of volunteers whose focus is to prevent the use or abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. The group strives to meet its objectives through increased awareness, education, and community activities. For more information about LiveWise visit bethedifference.fm.

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