

February 2026: Youth Voices and Community



🌸 South Florida Fair Connections

Throughout January, Palm Beach County Behavioral Health Coalition (PBCBHC) spent time at the South Florida Fair, educating and connecting with families from across our community. Thank you to our partners and to everyone who stopped by our booth. We engaged with many families and shared information about substance prevention. Parents were also invited to tour our “Hidden in Plain Sight” parent awareness display, which simulates a teen’s bedroom and encourages adults to identify possible signs that may point to substance use concerns. We are so grateful to every family who stopped by to learn more about how to help the young people in their lives make healthy choices and avoid substance use.



👥 TCIA Takeover Day at the Fair

One of the highlights of the fair was dedicating a whole day to our youth leadership group, Teen Coalition In Action (TCIA). TCIA members took over our table and connected with other local students through interactive tabletop cup games. They creatively reimagined games that are often associated with drinking by playing them sober, showing that fun can happen with a clear head. The energy was contagious, and the day became a great opportunity for recruitment. Several new teens joined our next meeting and expressed interest in getting involved in upcoming community events and trainings.

Celebrating Youth Success



Congratulations, Tamsin!

We are so proud of our Teen Coalition In Action Co-President, Tamsin Lee, who recently earned both the Virginia Pruitt Scholarship for \$1,500 and a South Florida Fair Scholarship for \$2,000. Your leadership, dedication, and hard work truly shine, and you represent the bright future ahead for all of our teens.



School Bus Media Contest Update Deadline Extended (March 5th)

We were excited when a past School Bus Drug Prevention Media Contest winner stopped by our table at the fair, Julyssa Vazquez from John I. Leonard High School. She was our Hanley Foundation Scholarship winner and you can view her art [here](#). It was a great moment to reminisce about the contest and promote her winning poster once again.

Speaking of the contest, we are happy to share that the submission deadline has been extended from February 8 to March 5! Palm Beach County students still have time to submit their entries for a chance to win up to \$1,000 in scholarships. Winning posters will also be displayed on county school buses everywhere for the all to see. Don't wait, [enter now!](#)

♥ **Save the Date for Wear Red Day**

February 6th is National Wear Red Day. You can show support for women's cardiovascular health by wearing red, sharing information and resources, and helping raise awareness.

✿ **Palm Beach County Youth Summit (March 28th)**

The Palm Beach County Youth Summit is back and will take place on March 28. This event will be a full day of connection, inspiration, and youth-led experiences while earning community service hours. Students, complete the [Youth Summit Interest Form](#) to save your spot! Adults can volunteer at the Youth Summit and earn community service hours as well (see link below). Be sure to check out highlights from last year's event to see what it is all about.

School Bus Drug Prevention



Media Contest

📣 **Deadline Extended: 16th Annual School Bus Media Contest** 🌿

Great news: our new contest deadline is now March 5th! The winning Palm Beach County students can earn up to \$1,000 in scholarships. PLUS, the contest is also a qualifying Fine Arts event for the **Florida Seal of Fine Arts**. Don't wait, [enter now!](#)

THE ART OF SELF-CARE



CALL OR TEXT
A FRIEND



DO SOME
JOURNALING



STAYING ALCOHOL &
VAPE-FREE



ENTER OUR CONTEST TO
WIN SCHOLARSHIPS FROM
\$100 TO \$1,000



EARN
COMMUNITY SERVICE
HOURS

CONTEST QUALIFIES FOR THE
FLORIDA FINE ARTS SEAL



SHORT VIDEO
REEL CATEGORY



VISUAL & DIGITAL ART
CATEGORIES

Deadline to receive entries
March 5th, 2026

FOR MORE INFO ON
HOW TO ENTER, VISIT:
PBCBUSPOSTER.ORG
OR SCAN HERE



Questions?
Prevention@pbcbhc.org
561-374-7627

SPONSORED BY



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Community Call



Connection is at the heart of prevention: As PBCBHC continues developing new projects to strengthen community connection and prevention efforts, your voice matters. Our work is strongest when it is shaped with our partners and community members. Below are a few ways you can get involved and help guide what comes next.

- **Logic Model Planning Committees:** Lend your expertise to help guide priorities, outcomes, and strategies that will shape our work moving forward. Your perspective ensures our plans reflect real-world needs and community realities. Our projects include prevention of underage drinking, vaping nicotine, marijuana in all forms, fake pills, opioid overdose and mental health support.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

- **Mental Health & Behavioral Health Resources Form:** Take a few minutes to complete the resource form with your organization's information so our county members and partners alike can easily find and access the services you provide.



PBCBHC
— Palm Beach County
Behavioral Health Coalition
Building A Healthier Community

Join our Mental & Behavioral Health Resource List

Help us send referrals

YOUR WAY

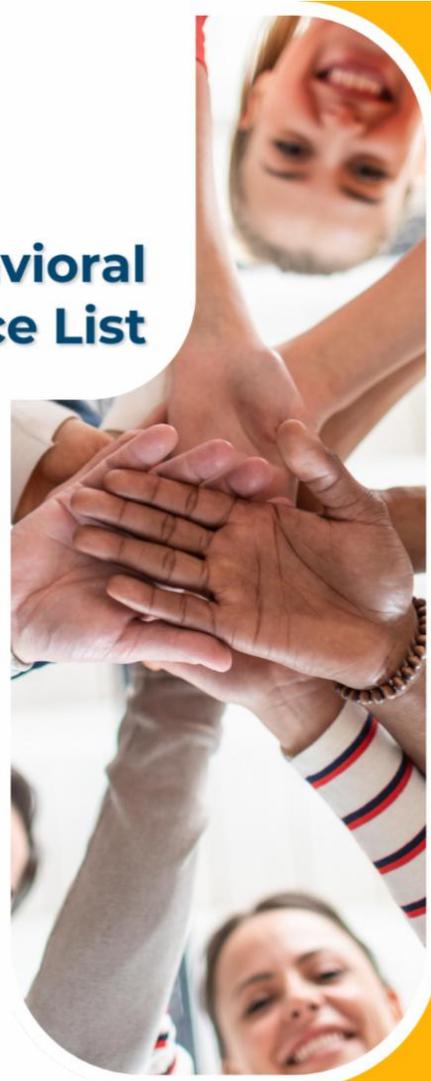
- Share your
- *Services*
 - *Who you serve*
 - *Cost*
 - *Key details*
 - *Contact info*

*So we can promote your work
in the community*

FILL OUT OUR FORM:



[f/PBCBHC](#) [@PBCBHC](#) [@PreventionPBCBHC](#) [Linktr.ee/PBCBHC](#)



[FILL OUT THE FORM HERE](#)

Each opportunity, big or small, helps build a more connected, responsive, and effective system of care. We truly value your partnership and hope you'll consider getting involved in the way that works best for you.

Together, we can turn collaboration into action.

Upcoming Events



Palm Beach County Youth Summit 2026 Volunteer Registration

If you are an adult interested in volunteering at the 2026 Palm Beach County Youth Summit to earn community service hours, please fill out the form below.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

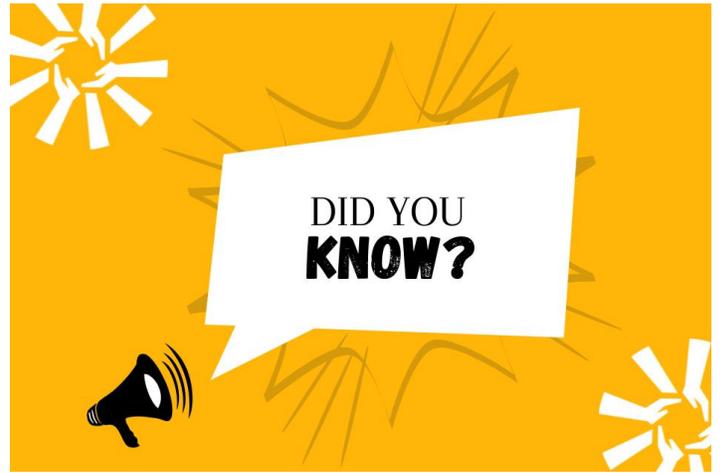


2025 Monitoring the Future Report Highlights

Recent findings from the "2025 Monitoring the Future" report show encouraging trends among young people nationwide according to [AskListenLearn.org](https://www.asklistenlearn.org). The report found that underage drinking rates have declined for the fifth consecutive year, and the majority of teens continue to report choosing not to use cannabis.

The data highlights especially strong progress among middle school students. A record number of eighth graders report never having tried alcohol, current drinking rates are at historic lows, and binge drinking among this age group has dropped dramatically over the past decade.

Sharing positive trends like these can be a helpful way for parents and caregivers to start conversations about alcohol and substance use. These findings reinforce an important message: most teens are *not drinking* and they are making healthy choices. Open and supportive conversations can help keep them on that path.



Study Finds Quitting Smoking Correlates with Improved Recovery from Other Substances

A [study](#) sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services found that quitting cigarette smoking may support stronger recovery outcomes for individuals with other substance use disorders. Researchers analyzing data from a large, nationally representative group of adults observed that people who stopped smoking were more likely to achieve sustained recovery from non-tobacco substance use compared to those who continued to smoke.

The findings suggest that tobacco use can play a meaningful role in overall recovery and that addressing smoking may strengthen long-term treatment outcomes. Despite this, smoking is often treated as a lower priority during substance use treatment. This research highlights the value of including tobacco cessation as part of a more comprehensive approach to recovery.

Source: [Addiction Policy Forum](#)

I AM BLACK History

FEBRUARY 2026

Calendar of EVENTS

Contact for more information:

Ann Stacey-Wright
961-305-1744
Cynthia Rabley
961-302-8084
Gerard Smith
732-627-6920

EVENT SPONSORS



- 01 FEB** I Am Black History Opening Ceremony @ Grooves 5pm-7pm
- 02 FEB** The Supper Club Podcast 6:30pm-7:30pm Set Neighborhood Alliance FB Page
- 03 FEB** Recognizing 28 Days of Black History City Commission Meeting City Hall @ 5pm
- 05 FEB** Elder's Table Bam Little Known Black History Facts Community Primitive Baptist Church
- 06 FEB** Go Red Heart Health Delta Pompey Park @ 5pm
- 07 FEB** Black Art Display Pompey Bam Health Symposium @ Pompey Park 10am
- 08 FEB** SUPERBOWL SUNDAY @Grooves 11am Wear your team jersey
- 09 FEB** The Supper Club Podcast 6:30pm-7:30pm Set Neighborhood Alliance FB Page
- 11 FEB** Stories in The Set The Purpose of The Black Church Ebenezer Wesley Methodist Church 6:30pm
- 12 FEB** Elder's Table Bam Little Known Black History Facts Community Primitive Baptist Church Sounds of The Set Libby Wesley Plaza 5:30pm

- 13 FEB** Game Night Bring your game to the table @ Grooves 5pm
- 14 FEB** Senior Valentine Social 10am-4pm Parrish Hall \$15 Entry Fee Lovens & Friends 5pm Sunset Cove Airbn Theater Boca Raton
- 15 FEB** Split The Tea on Health 3pm Delray Memorial Service Libby Wesley Plaza 11am-3pm
- 16 FEB** PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY The Supper Club Podcast 6:30pm-7:30pm Set Neighborhood Alliance FB Page
- 17 FEB** Building Better Black Businesses Seminar Pompey Park 5pm Peach Umbrella Coalition
- 18 FEB** Stories in The Set Haitian Cultural THE NYE @ 6pm
- 19 FEB** Elder's Table Bam Little Known Black History Facts Community Primitive Baptist Church Devotee Session Let's Talk About It Panel Discussion @Pompey Park 5pm
- 20 FEB** Visual Adjectives Black Superhero Art M:way Contact info@wayd.com for more info
- 21 FEB** Fashion in The Set Pompey Park 11am-3pm
- 22 FEB** St. Paul AME Annual Tea Pompey Park 3pm Robey Temple COGIC Family & Friends Day 3:30pm

- 23 FEB** The Supper Club Podcast 6:30pm-7:30pm Set Neighborhood Alliance FB Page
- 25 FEB** Meet On The Ave Libby Wesley Plaza 5pm-8:30pm Barring Conversation w/Commissioner Bann Pompey Park 5pm-8pm
- 26 FEB** Elder's Table Bam Little Known Black History Facts Community Primitive Baptist Church Stories in The Set Bahamian Cultural @Parrish Hall 12pm
- 27 FEB** Friday Night Lights Khabab Pompey Park 5pm
- 28 FEB** African Diaspora Awards 10pm Indian Springs-Groves Beach Street Live Piano & Music Festival 3pm-8pm Washington Amphitheater Wellington, FL

EVENT LOCATIONS

- LIBBY WESLEY PLAZA**
2 5th Ave, Delray Beach
- SPADY CULTURAL HERITAGE MUSEUM**
175 NW 9th Avenue, Delray Beach
- DELRAY BEACH CITY HALL**
100 NW 1st Avenue, Delray Beach
- POMPEY PARK RECREATION CENTER**
1101 NW 2nd Street, Delray Beach
- EBENEZER WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH**
201 SW 6th Avenue, Delray Beach
- THE NYE**
24 SW 5th Avenue, Delray Beach
- BLACKLUKE PING-PONG & MUSIC FESTIVAL**
Washington Amphitheater
12100 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington, FL 33414
- ST. PAUL AME CHURCH**
119 NW 5th Avenue, Delray Beach
- PARRISH HALL**
404 SW 3-2 Street, Delray Beach
- ST. JOHN DELRAY**
615 NW 1st Street, Delray Beach
- ST. PAUL BAPTIST CHURCH**
40 SW 10th Avenue, Delray Beach
- GROOVES DANQUINI BAR**
404 W. Atlantic Avenue, Delray Beach
- COMMUNITY PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**
33 NW 11th Avenue, Delray Beach
- ROBEY TEMPLE COGIC**
102 SW 12th Avenue, Delray Beach

Community Happenings

BeWellPBC Community Connectors

Grief, Loss, & Healing Workshop

Navigating Grief: Deepening Our Understanding

February 28th 10am - 12pm



No Cost to Attend | Limited Seating

Understanding Grief Together

Different Kinds of Loss

Healthy Coping & Self-Care

REGISTER NOW

Email Katrina Blackmon
kblackmon@bewellpbc.org

STORIES IN THE SET

A Sacred Evening of Remembrance,
Culture & Community

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

The Hive

34 SW 5th Avenue Delray Beach, FL 33444

Join us for an intimate candlelight gathering honoring our
ancestors through story, culture and mindful connection

Evening Features

- ★ **Candlelight Memorial Call** in the spirit of remembrance and gratitude
- ★ **Ancestor Roll Call** Speak the names Honor the lineage Hold sacred space
- ★ **Haitian Culture Education** Centered around traditional food history and ancestral honoring practices
- ★ **Mindfulness Practice** Grounding breath reflection and collective presence
- ★ **Community Food Gathering** Share nourishment stories and connection

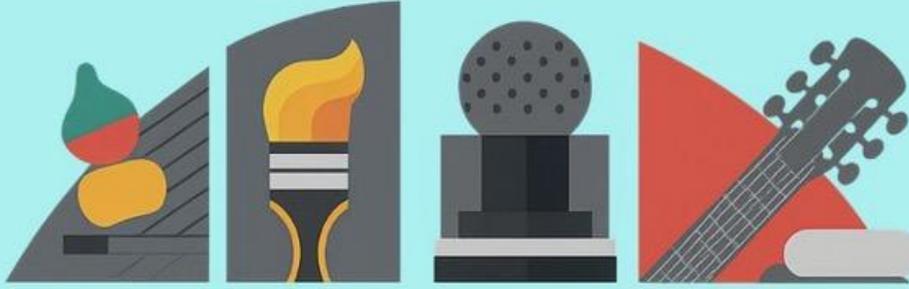
Come dressed comfortably and respectfully Bring a name a memory or a candle if you wish to honor a loved one



Contact Montre Bennett (561) 862-3072 for more



SCAN QR CODE
TO REGISTER



6TH ANNUAL 2026

MYAF

Multicultural Youth Arts Festival



OLD SCHOOL SQUARE AMPHITHEATER

51 SWINTON AVENUE, DELRAY BEACH, FL 33444

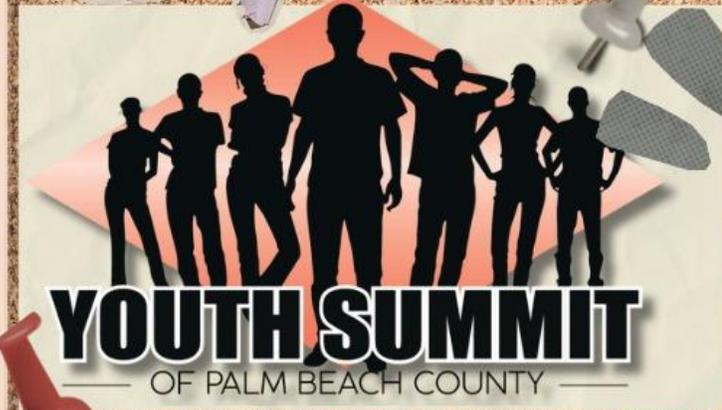


**MARCH 6th 2026
4:00PM - 9:00PM**



K-12 ART (ART CATEGORIES: DRAWING/PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY & DIGITAL ART), ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND PERFORMANCE SUBMISSIONS

www.capeuniversal.org/submissions
Reach out to Lisa@capeuniversal.org with questions



Save the Date



DATE
SATURDAY
MARCH
28TH

2025 HIGHLIGHTS



PBCYOUTHSUMMIT.ORG



Johnny's Ambassadors 2026 Spring Webinar Series

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM mountain (12:00 PM to 1:00 PM eastern)



Each webinar with LIVE attendance is approved for 1.0 CE hour from the NAADAC. Johnny's Ambassadors is an NAADAC Approved Education Provider #253600.

**CANNABIS USE AND PSYCHOSIS:
FROM RISK TO TREATMENT**



MARTA DI FORTI, MD, PHD
FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026
10:00 AM MOUNTAIN/12:00 PM EASTERN

Register at
[JohnnysAmbassadors.org/
webinars](https://JohnnysAmbassadors.org/webinars)

**CANNABIS PHARMACOLOGY,
TEEN NEUROCHEMISTRY:
THE SCIENCE OF RISK**



ERIK MESSAMORE, MD, PHD
FEBRUARY 13, 2026
10:00 AM MOUNTAIN/12:00 PM EASTERN

**CANNABIS-INDUCED
PSYCHOSIS:
PSYCHOSIS AND MANIA**



NIK RAO, MD, MSC
FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026
10:00 AM MOUNTAIN/12:00 PM EASTERN

**REACHING RESISTANT YOUTH:
FAMILY SYSTEMS APPROACHES
TO EARLY INTERVENTION IN
CANNABIS-INDUCED
PSYCHOSIS**



**GIANNA YUNKER, CIP, CAI,
CFRS, CRS**
FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2026
10:00 AM MOUNTAIN/12:00 PM EASTERN

**MARIJUANA MYTHBUSTERS:
COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS
AND THE MEDICAL
EVIDENCE**



MATT POLING, MD
FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026
10:00 AM MOUNTAIN/12:00 PM EASTERN

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303-471-7401 • johnnysambassadors.org • Laura@JohnnysAmbassadors.org

Stay Coalition Connected...

Update your contact info today to be in on all things behavioral health in Palm Beach County.

[Coalition Connections](#) for updates on General Coalition Meetings, Outreaches, Newsletters...

Text **PBCBHC to 888-687-0035** for text updates on Coalition happenings.

Visit our Linktree



