



ALCOHOL & DRUG USE – A CRISIS LEVEL IN PETALUMA

PCRC Hosts a Public Forum on the Staggering Numbers & What Our City is Doing to Stem the Tide of Addiction

Have you recently hosted a party where liquor and/or drugs were served?

Have you ever knowingly or unwittingly served alcohol or drugs to minors?

What's a "server?"

Whether you work in the beverage business or allow your home to host parties where alcohol or drugs are served, you can be held responsible for any adult or minor who consumed anything that impaired them.

The last time Sonoma County did an extensive report on the level of alcohol and illicit drug use (which included Petaluma) was in 2013. At that time consumption among adults and teenagers was startling.

As a result of that report on, "Community Indicators of Alcohol & Drug Abuse Risk," published in 2014, Sonoma County published a second report, in 2015, titled, "ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUG PREVENTION STRATEGIC PLAN."

Since the release of that report, Law Enforcement and Health experts say the rate of users and abusers has grown exponentially, and Petaluma leaders are finally saying, the city is at a near crisis level.

In response, PCRC is hosting a Zoom forum that will focus on substance use and abuse, and how it is impacting Petaluma; and what the city is doing to stave off the rising tide of alcohol and drug addiction.

Date: Wednesday March 23, 2022

Time: 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Zoom Information: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81948220515?pwd=WUFqZmNWL1hNb0VHYWFMZGIDcm5xQT09>

Zoom & simulcasting at KPCA-LP 103.3 FM, Streaming at KPCA.fm

Distinguished panelists include: Lt. Nick McGowan, Petaluma Police Department; Donna Newman-Fields, MA, CCPS, Supervising Health Information Specialist, Alcohol and Other Drugs Prevention Coordinator, Sonoma County Department of Health Services Behavioral Health Division; Elece Hempel, Executive Director, Petaluma People Services Center; and Dr. Richard Von Feldt.

Since 2016, PCRC has been serving its community as a nonpartisan alliance of representatives from faith-based and volunteer organizations, city government, and Petaluma residents, who engage in continued dialogue, advocating for a shared message of unity.

PCRC's mission is to serve as a coalition of individuals and groups, promoting the values of respect, appreciation and understanding of diversity among all people in our community. By fostering positive human relations, we identify and confront discrimination, respond to the needs of our community, and serve as a source of information and advocacy.

Petaluma Community Relations Council Steering Committee:

Rabbi Ted Feldman, Chair

Elece Hempel

Faith Ross

Phyllis Tajji

Lou Zweier

Peggy Sebera

Carole Barlas

Robert Tomaszewski

Heidi Majano

Erica Stuart/Coordinator

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