

What we accomplished in 2020-21

In the midst of a global pandemic, Stand Strong has remained strong and steadfast. Serving our community in creative ways, we piloted new programs and came together when our youth needed it most. Congratulations on an incredible year!

January 2020

- ★ Conducted 2020 Parent Survey
- ★ Catalyst students presented to Willow Creek Community Church and Temple Chai about substance abuse prevention and how religious communities can encourage youth to pursue a substance-free lifestyle

February 2020

- ★ Conducted Illinois Youth Survey (Aptakisic and West Oak)
- ★ Conducted Stevenson Health and Wellness Survey
- ★ Past 30-day use of alcohol by 12th graders dropped from 41% in 2016 to 28% in 2020
- ★ Catalyst student Capitol Hill Day speaker at CADCA Forum

March 2020

- ★ Honored the incredible Jamie Epstein for her work establishing and building Stand Strong

April 2020

- ★ Piloted “Incoming Freshmen Panel” online for first-time ever: 452 parent/student attendees
- ★ Catalyst alumna featured as a youth trainer during CADCA's Trainer Takeover Week
- ★ Sticker Shock event featuring 16 retailers

May 2020

- ★ “Marijuana in 2020: What You Should Know” - presentation by Dr. Aaron Weiner: 220 attendees

June 2020

- ★ Petit Regional Sticker Shock, collaborative event with 12 coalitions
- ★ Launched “Summer Safety Toolkit”
- ★ Summer School Health Presentation Speakers - coordinated by Amy Voss

July 2020

- ★ “Helping Teens Cope in 2020” presentation by Dr. Weiner

August 2020

- ★ Conducted virtual Catalyst Middle School training

September 2020

- ★ “Not My Kid?!” program featuring Dr. Shatkin - 220 attendees
- ★ Piloted Catalyst Middle School program remotely

October 2020

- ★ Hosted virtual Red Ribbon Week at sender middle schools
- ★ Evaluation Committee hosted Parent Data presentation

November 2020

- ★ “Reducing Youth Substance Use in our Community: 2020 Student Survey Results” - Presentation by Dr. Greg Barker
- ★ Marijuana/CBD and Youth - presentation by Dr. Sirota to NCL Wilmette Chapter
- ★ Catalyst students gave a presentation on trends in cannabis policy and use to staff at Twin Groves Middle School
- ★ Featured in CADCA’s publication “Coalitions in Action”

December 2020

- ★ Awarded DFC Grant for another 5 years!
- ★ Sticker Shock event at 16 retailers

January 2021

- ★ CDC/SAMHSA transition - Met new Project Officers
- ★ Presentation to Wilmette PTO by Dr. Sirota
- ★ American Cancer Society/Cancer Action Network Youth Summit - Catalyst

February 2021

- ★ Sent Stand Strong volunteers and Catalyst students to virtual CADCA Forum
- ★ Met with Representative Schneider and Senator Durbin's team during CADCA's Capitol Hill Day to discuss the impact COVID-19 has had on alcohol consumption, the vaping epidemic and the flavor ban
- ★ "Teens and Screens" presentation by Dr. Weiner in collaboration with four coalitions: 128 attendees

March 2021

- ★ National Coalition Academy - Week 1
- ★ 3,000 Detera pouches distributed!

April 2021

- ★ Catalyst and Dr. Sirota Facebook Live event: 170 attendees
- ★ DEA Take Back Day and Detera distribution
- ★ Conducted PreVenture curriculum at Aptakistic and Daniel Wright

- ★ Received \$1,000 grant from SBB Research Group

May 2021

- ★ Catalyst Student Award Ceremony
- ★ National Coalition Academy - Week 2
- ★ Sticker Shock at 22 retailers
- ★ Graduated from Mundelein United Equity Cohort
- ★ Submitted Year 7 DFC proposal

June 2021

- ★ "Help Teens Have a Summer to Remember" Virtual Town Hall hosted by 9 local coalitions
- ★ Stand Strong Community Events - Detera distribution
- ★ Health Presentation Speakers - coordinated by Amy Voss

July 2021

- ★ CADCA Mid-Year Institute presentation: "Virtual Youth Engagement: Structuring Your Youth Coalition for Success" Presented by Dr. Cristina Cortesi, Maya Gopal, Caroline Hail