



MATFORCE Ambassador Program

MATFORCE Background

Due to an overwhelming concern for substance abuse and its effects, MATFORCE, the Yavapai County Substance Abuse Coalition was formed in 2006. The mission statement of the coalition is: *With determination and integrity, we, the citizens of Yavapai County, commit to working in partnership to build healthier communities by striving to eliminate substance abuse and its effects.*

The current goals of the organization are:

1. To increase prevention capacity for youth and families
2. To decrease illicit drug use.
3. To increase awareness of the dangers of problematic drinking and illicit or harmful drug use.
4. To increase the capacity to intervene and treat.
5. To decrease underage drinking.
6. To decrease prescription drug abuse.
7. To advocate for environmental strategies that results in the reduction of underage drinking and illicit or harmful drug use.
8. To oppose the legalization of recreational drugs.

MATFORCE is reaching out to community members and advocates that understand the importance of educating about and reducing substance use and abuse in our community. The goal of the MATFORCE Ambassador program is to equip community-minded individuals with the awareness and understanding of the importance of decreasing substance abuse in our county so that they will be empowered to increase awareness and understanding throughout their sphere of influence in order to build a healthier community.

Definition of Ambassador

An informal representative of MATFORCE that advocates for a drug-free lifestyle, and promotes awareness and understanding of substance abuse issues that aligns with MATFORCE policy and purpose.

Expectations for being a MATFORCE Ambassador

MATFORCE Ambassadors are a select group of volunteers chosen through an application and interview process to assist the organization with a broad range of opportunities based on interest and level of commitment.

Examples of the roles that a MATFORCE Ambassador can take include:

- Serving as an encouraging role model and advocate for a drug-free lifestyle by learning about substance abuse issues and sharing your knowledge within your sphere of influence.
- Participating in community and school outreach events and/or special events, such as our signature event, **Walk With Me, Be Drug Free**, as needed.
- Being a liaison with a school to promote classroom substance abuse education and site participation in general activities that encourage healthy life style choices.

Qualifications Required:

- Currently a resident of Yavapai County
- Commitment to substance abuse prevention
- Belief in the mission and goals of MATFORCE

How do you become a MATFORCE Ambassador?

- 1) Complete the application form.
- 2) Participate in the Ambassador orientation.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q: What does an Ambassador do?
A: Overall, a MATFORCE Ambassador advocates for a drug-free lifestyle, and promotes awareness and understanding of substance abuse issues. Specific Ambassador duties depend on their chosen commitment level.
- Q: Is there financial compensation?
A: No, Ambassadors are not paid by MATFORCE. However, we recognize that our Ambassadors are an essential part of the organization's mission. Therefore, we strive to maintain an organizational culture of appreciation through recognition and praise. We often provide incentives to acknowledge our Ambassadors for their creativity and hard work.
- Q: How long does the Ambassador training take?
A: Initial training happens at your convenience. Subsequent trainings are offered throughout the year on an opt-in basis. We ask that Ambassadors attend a minimum of one training a year to maintain knowledge on current substance abuse trends.
- Q: Is there a cost to participate in this program?
A: No. This program is FREE at this time.