

Hello Red Ribbon Coordinators!

It is almost time to celebrate Red Ribbon! This year's **National Red Ribbon week is October 23<sup>rd</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>**. However, feel free to celebrate at your school on whatever week works best for your schedule. We are so thrilled to kick off Red Ribbon celebrations with our Superintendents' Red Ribbon Leadership Awards Ceremony at the ***Daphne Civic Center on Monday, September 25th, 2023 at 6:00pm, doors open at 5:00pm.*** (Flyer attached) Student Leaders will be recognized by their peers, family, school and community at this unique and fun event! There will also be a Drug Take Back dropbox available at this event courtesy of the Daphne Police Department. Please bring any old/unused medications on the night of September 25th to be disposed of correctly.

We hope each of you will register your leader on our website as soon as you can. [www.drugeducation.org](http://www.drugeducation.org). **Please make sure to register them by September 15th in order for their name to be included in the event's printed program.** *Once you have registered your leader, please contact the student and their family to let them know about their selection.* We will then send more information to the student and family about the kick-off event in September.

Each school's Red Ribbon leader should be in charge of organizing their campus Red Ribbon week activities to support this year's theme of "We Love Our Veterans & First Responders!"

After the kick-off celebration, we encourage all chosen Student Leaders to organize and complete a community service project focused on this year's theme to be submitted to us by **4:00 P.M., Friday, March 15th, 2024.** High School seniors will be eligible for the Courtney Upton Leadership Scholarship and Grades K-11 can win prizes.

In this email, I have attached the following: Counselor Checklist Sheet, Community Service Project and Information Sheet & Submission Sheet. All of these will be available on the Drug Education Council website.

If you have any questions, please call or email Jane Bartlett Nenstiel at (251) 478-7855 / [jbpappas@drugeducation.org](mailto:jbpappas@drugeducation.org). Or call the Drug Education Council office at (251) 478-7855.

We are so excited to see all the wonderful things that your students will achieve this year in honor of Red Ribbon Week! Let's spread the message of prevention and continue to #BeSmartBeHealthy all year long!