

## Memo of Understanding (MOU)

Drug Free Clubs of America (DFCA) strives to protect teens from the horrors of drug abuse by creating a unified message from their parents, schools, and the community about the importance of remaining drug-free. We support and fortify drug-free choices by protecting them from drug abuse in 5 different ways:

**Drug testing** – The chance of being tested at any time protects teens who find themselves in drug-related situations, and even reduces the likelihood of ever being offered substances. "I can't, I might get tested", stops peer pressure in its tracks. Keeping test results confidential from the school enables parents to focus on drugs as a threat to their child's health rather than their reputation.

**Positive Reinforcement** – Special perks at school and in the community reinforce the positive behaviors shown by DFCA members. "Rewards" have an instant uplifting impact on the teen's environment strengthening beliefs in remaining drug free.

Student Leadership – Details decided by "Student Officers" ensure that the effort is relatable to the student body as a whole, creating positive peer pressure, and offering the chance for officers to build leadership skills.

**Parent Tools –** <u>"Take 5"</u>: Tipping off parents on ideal moments and ways to talk comfortably with their child about drugs, potentially reducing their child's risk of use by up to 50%. <u>"Parent Resource"</u>: A professional in the field of substance abuse on standby as a resource for parents with questions on handling vulnerable moments.

**Drug Education** – "In the NO": Armed with information, ongoing awareness on drug-related topics confirms drug free decisions, and increases the chance for members to be a positive influence on others.

In order to ensure we are all successful, each school is relied upon to provide or carry out certain minimum items including, but not limited to appointing an enthusiastic in-school coordinator (club meetings not required), timely execution of program components, effective communications including just one mailer in the beginning of the year to parents, computer access on test days, and a review at the conclusion of the year.

For \_\_\_\_\_\_ School(s) I have the authority to approve and agree to the items above, and willingly enter into this MOU with Drug Free Clubs of America (DFCA). Our district's schools have full permission from our body to complete their DFCA chapter agreements in order to move forward with establishing their own school's club, should they choose to do so.

Printed Name

Title

Signature

Date