Important Information:

Your high school AV department can earn cash awards coordinated and sponsored by Prevention Links, the Health and Wellness Coalition (HAWC) of Union County, and the Amber Pizzo Memorial Foundation. The PSA Contest is open to all Union County High School students. The objective is to increase awareness of the risks and consequences associated with substance use. With the media continually glorifying substance abuse, our goal is to change the message. Through youth designed media messaging, we can create positive community changes to reduce the use of substances by youth.

14 is the average age in the United States in which people try alcohol for the first time.

Each year, approximately 5,000 young people under the age of 21 die as a result of underage drinking.

High school seniors who smoke marijuana are 2 times more likely to receive a traffic ticket and 65% more likely to get into an accident than those who don’t smoke.

In 2017, 10.3% of 12th graders reported driving after using marijuana in the past two weeks. And combining marijuana with drinking even a small amount of alcohol greatly increases driving danger, more than either drug alone.

Marijuana is the most commonly used illicit drug in the United States by teens as well as adults. Recent public discussions about medical marijuana and the public debate over the drug’s legal status is leading to a reduced perception of harm among young people.

Prescription and over-the-counter drugs are the most commonly misused substances by Americans age 14 and older, after marijuana and alcohol.

Taking your own prescription in a way that it is not meant to be taken is also misuse. This includes taking more of the medication than prescribed or changing its form—for example, breaking or crushing a pill or capsule and then snorting the powder.
The Union County PSA contest gives students the opportunity to send a positive message to their peers and communities that substance use does not have to be a part of their lifestyle. Students are given the opportunity to express their creativity by producing a 30 second PSA.

**THE WINNING SCHOOL RECEIVES $1000**

**1ST RUNNER UP RECEIVES $500**

**2ND RUNNER UP RECEIVES $250**

**THE 3 WINNING TEAMS WILL HAVE THEIR PSA SHOWN AT THE 3RD ANNUAL RECOVERY FILM FESTIVAL**

The Contest ends **May 3rd, 2019** so don’t delay in getting your creative teams together. The top winners will be selected through a combination of judges’ scores and online votes.