



February 18, 2021

Dear Community Member or Local Business,

The Prevention Empowerment Partnership (PEP), an initiative of United Way of the River Cities, is a collaborative coalition of community-based members and organizations that partner to increase access to substance use prevention services for youth and families in Cabell County and surrounding areas. We are proud to announce PEP's spring event, our first **"EGGS-traordinary Community Scavenger Hunt,"** which will be held March 27 – April 3, 2021, throughout Cabell County. The community-wide event will be COVID-19 policy-compliant. It will be held outdoors at multiple sites and participants will be encouraged to wear masks, hunt in their small groups, and maintain a safe social distance from other hunters.

This event will raise awareness of our coalition's goals, recruit youth to our youth committees, promote a "Live Drug-Free" message and expand PEP's reach throughout Cabell County. Preventing substance use among youth is PEP's main priority, and research shows that providing outlets for youth to have fun while learning about substance use prevention is one way to reach them. Community connections help youth understand community values and provide a sense of belonging. We are asking community members and businesses to help us show our youth how much we value them by providing prizes for this event.

The goal of the event is to engage a minimum of 75 youth and promote the prevention of drug use. Before the event, we will hide 250 eggs in a minimum of 10 locations. The eggs will contain drug prevention messages and instructions on how youth under 18 who find the eggs can claim prizes **April 7** during a special Facebook live event. To make this event successful, we need your help to provide prizes from every site location. The more prizes we obtain, no matter the size, the more interest youth will have in participating. Throughout the week prior to April 7<sup>th</sup>, PEP will provide clues of where to search for the eggs via social media. The social media posts will also promote the community members and businesses who provided prizes or cash to purchase the prizes.

Would you be willing to donate a gift or service to help make this event a success and show youth how much you value them? I sincerely hope so because we need a minimum of 30 prizes donated to give away during the event. Your donation will help promote a united community message to "live drug-free", establish a connection to our community for our youth by showing them we care about them and of course, get you some free publicity.

Please mail or drop off (in the door mail slot) by March 22, 2021, a check, gifts for youth (games, balls, toys, etc.), or a gift certificate for services (anything appropriate for youth from any business, a pizza, a haircut, etc.) to my attention at United Way of the River Cities, 820 Madison Avenue, Huntington, WV 25704. Please note the donation is for PEP's Spring Event on the package along with your contact information and how you would like your donation publicized during the event. If you need to make other arrangements to donate or if you have questions, please feel free to email me at [angela.saunders@unitedwayrivercities.org](mailto:angela.saunders@unitedwayrivercities.org) or call me at 304 552-3528. I thank you in advance for your partnership and commitment to substance use prevention among youth!

Sincerely,

Angela D. Saunders, Director of PEP