

CANYON DE CHELLY COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

CDCCHS.MATFORCE.021914

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE LEGALIZATION OF MARIJUANA

PRIMARY SPONSOR: MATFORCE, the Yavapai County Substance Abuse Coalition

WHEREAS we are committed to the success and positive future of our youth; AND

WHEREAS marijuana, like cigarettes, is addictive;ⁱ AND

WHEREAS teen use of marijuana has been on the rise in Arizona since 2007;ⁱ AND

WHEREAS marijuana use is harmful to the adolescent brain, affecting the parts of the brain that influence pleasure, memory, thinking, concentration, sensory and time perception, and coordinated movement;ⁱⁱⁱ AND

WHEREAS teens who smoke marijuana regularly can see an 8 point drop in IQ by the time they reach 38 putting a person of average intelligence into the lowest third of the IQ range;^{iv} AND

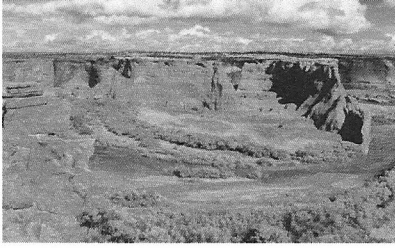
WHEREAS marijuana use can lead to high school dropout and failure in college;^v AND

WHEREAS teens who use marijuana heavily are more likely to develop mental illness such as schizophrenia;^{vi} AND

WHEREAS marijuana use reduces inhibitions and can lead to risky behaviors, distorted perception, impaired coordination, and can cause difficulty with thinking, problem-solving and difficulty with learning and memory;^{vii} AND

WHEREAS, according to the 2012 Arizona Youth Survey,^{viii}

- 2012 was the first time in Arizona's history that past 30-day use of marijuana by teens surpassed their use of cigarettes; and
- Arizona's teens are getting younger for first use of marijuana; and
- The perception of marijuana's risks by Arizona's youth, both users and non-users of marijuana, is decreasing and their use is increasing; and



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WHEREAS, if marijuana were legalized an additional 32,000 high school students in Arizona would be more likely to use marijuana.^{ix}

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we oppose the legalization of marijuana; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we support public education on the harms of marijuana, and proven prevention interventions such as community-based drug prevention efforts, drug treatment courts, offender re-entry programs and probation reform; and further support making drug treatment available to all who need it.

We certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly considered by the Canyon De Chelly Comprehensive Health Services Health Board at a duly called meeting in Chinle, Arizona, at which a quorum was present and that same was passed by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstained, this 19th day of February, 2014.

Signed this 19th day of February, 2014.

Motion by: 

Second by: 



Chair, CDCCHS, Inc.