

## REAL Benefits:

- Inside information about the drug and alcohol issue in Helena
- Confidence that when faith leaders refer someone via CONNECT, the family will get the help they need
- Tools and confidence to handle difficult conversations with youth regarding substance use
- Resources available in the community
- Information about positive events for youth



## According to the Surgeon General of the United States

*“The participation of faith communities in the nationwide fight against drug abuse is critical to preventing and treating opioid misuse—and to supporting individuals in long-term recovery.”*

- Vice Adm. Jerome M. Adams M.D., M.P.H.,  
Surgeon General of the United States, excerpt  
from *Keeping Faith: Bringing Hope and Healing in  
the Midst of the Opioid Crisis* on the Department  
of Health and Human Services Blog.

## Participate and Create REAL Impact!

For questions or to participate in the REAL  
Community Project, contact Rachel Dober, an  
AmeriCorps VISTA serving with Youth  
Connections at

[Rachel@youthconnectionscoalition.org](mailto:Rachel@youthconnectionscoalition.org)

More information is also available at  
[www.youthconnectionscoalition.org/REAL](http://www.youthconnectionscoalition.org/REAL)



*“We engage our community to  
create environments where  
youth thrive and succeed.”*

The REAL Project is possible due in  
part to the generosity of the



## Connect with us:

 Youth Connections

 @YouthConx

 @YouthConx

Use **#REALHelena** to talk about the **REAL**  
Project on social media!

# Make a REAL Difference!

*“My daughter suffered from a  
substance use disorder, and our  
family received no support from  
the community.”*  
– A parent in Helena



**Faith leaders have the opportunity  
to provide that necessary support!**

The REAL Community Project will  
make a safer and healthier community  
by equipping faith leaders with  
knowledge and tools to help families  
in crisis, prevent substance abuse,  
and create REAL community, REAL  
change, and REAL impact!

## R is for REFERRALS



The CONNECT Referral system is a tool for faith leaders to help those in crisis and allows the leader to be confident that those in need are connected with services.

[ConnectMontana.org](http://ConnectMontana.org)

## The REAL Deal

The **REAL** Community Project **will**:

- Prevent substance abuse
- Educate faith leaders on the current issues facing Helena
- Connect faith leaders with resources to support families.
- Provide faith leaders tangible ways to help make the Helena area a safer environment for everyone
- Show love to people in the Helena area

The **REAL** Community Project **will not**:

- Advance the cause of a particular group or faith
- Lobby or support political legislation
- Proselytize people

## E is for EDUCATION

Attend the REAL Forum to learn from those on the front lines how drugs and alcohol are affecting families in Helena. Check our website for details.

[Youthconnectionscoalition.org/REAL](http://Youthconnectionscoalition.org/REAL)

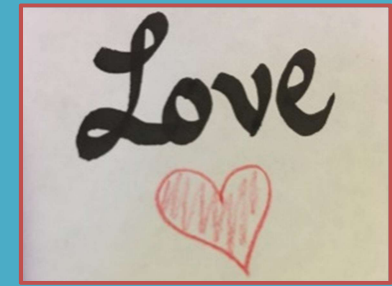


## A is for ACTION

The Service Fair will be an opportunity for all people to learn how they can help make a difference in the lives of kids in the Helena community!



## L is for LOVE



Loving others is vital for most faith communities and is the heart of the REAL Community Project. Everything done through REAL will be done in love.



*"Religious organizations can play a significant role in preventing substance abuse and supporting substance abuse treatment in their communities."*

How to Raise a Drug Free Kid, by Joseph A. Califano, Jr.