Your Challenge:

“As we fought in the trenches in past wars, we are now needed to join America in a new challenge — the war against alcohol and drug abuse. And it is a War — the battlefields are in our homes, schools, and workplaces. It threatens the very fiber of American family life.

However, this war will be fought without guns. Instead, we will win the battle against substance abuse by educating our youth and offering support to our families through the AADAA program. This program will serve as a tool to communicate, inspire, and motivate your Post to act as a clearinghouse for information and support for those in need.”

-PNC Ted Leszkiewicz

### Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Fact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>58.5% of 12th graders tried alcohol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>16% of 12th graders have used marijuana in the past month</td>
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**WARNING:** It is important to remember that the AADAA program should act as simply a resource center for information on chemical dependency.

Our purpose is to guide people in need to the correct resources about chemical dependency and recovery.

We are NOT licensed counselors or consultants.
COMPETITION
Youth Awareness

AMVETS holds a contest for students in grades K-12 intended to raise awareness about substance abuse and prevention.

THEMES

2021-2022
Be a Winner, Be Drug Free

2022-2023
There is no use for Drug Abuse

2023-2024
Be Smart...Don’t Start

Judges will take into consideration adherence to the theme, originality, literary construction and legibility.

Deadline:
Contact your local AMVETS post or department for details.

To find your local post or department visit the AMVETS Post Locator at www.amvets.org.

CATAGORIES

GRADEn CONTEST MEDIA
K-2 POSTER
3-5 POSTER
6-8 ESSAY OR POEM
9-12 ESSAY OR POEM

GUIDELINES

All entries must address the current theme.

POSTER
⇒ Entries must be a 9x12 using construction paper or poster board.
⇒ Entries must be free-hand drawings, using any art medium. A straight edge may be used.
⇒ Description must be written or attached on the back of the poster in 50 words or less

ESSAYS/POEMS
⇒ Entries maybe written in black or blue ink, typed or printed from a computer.
⇒ Essays submitted by 6th through 8th Grade must be 250 words or less.
⇒ Essays submitted by 9th through 12th grade must be 350 words or less.

COMMITMENT

Community Awareness

In an effort to promote community-level education programs and to act as a referral service to the citizenry, the AADAA program encourages local AMVETS Posts to work with and support existing community programs.

OUR GOALS ARE:

♦ Support prevention programs within the local school districts.
♦ Encourage the development of programs that foster self-esteem and coping skills among students.
♦ Educate and inform the community about the problems of chemical dependency.
♦ Make facilities available for community groups conducting awareness programs.
♦ Monitor laws and regulations that affect the community in its ability to respond to the care and treatment of chemically dependent.

As a community, we want to ensure that children grow safely into adulthood without the burdens caused by alcohol and other drug related issues.