



REGISTER TODAY!

Through active participation in FOCUS, students experience positive youth development and awareness regarding their value in prevention of adolescent risk behaviors.

FOCUS is a school-based project for students in Grades 7-12. The program works best when implemented as an elective class. The Alabama State Department of Education LEAPS Code may be either: 250003 Health Elective, Grades 9-12 or 802207 Peer Helping Elective, Grades 6-12. FOCUS may also be offered as an extra-curricular activity or infused into another class, i.e., Health Science, Family and Consumer Science, or Health Education.

Facilitator Training is provided as part of FOCUS implementation. Additionally, a Facilitator Page is available on the FOCUS website. A User Name and Password is provided to the school facilitator when a school is registered. There is no cost to register as a FOCUS school.

Facilitator Training consists of:

- Discussing the history and background of FOCUS
- Providing a FOCUS overview
- Describing methods of implementation
- Peer Helping Leader Training
- Focus Group Training
- Reviewing the Implementation Guidelines
- Providing supplemental materials and resources for prevention efforts

There are two statewide youth conferences each year sponsored by FOCUS. The Alabama Youth Council (AYC) is held in the fall. The Rally is held in late spring. Both conferences have featured nationally known motivational speakers. Educators and Social Workers may receive professional development credit. Social Work CEUs are provided by the Alabama Board of Social Work. Summary Reports of previous student events are archived on the website. Registration information, agendas, and directions may be found at www.thefocusprogram.com.

The School Superintendents of Alabama (SSA), Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), Council of Leaders in Alabama Schools (CLAS), Alabama Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy (ALCPTP), and numerous Community Based Organizations (CBOs) support the program. FOCUS has been presented at numerous state and national conferences and workshops. Several publications have featured articles on this youth led initiative.

The FOCUS Staff is available to assist as needed throughout the school year. Through the implementation of FOCUS, youth have gained knowledge, leadership skills, and an awareness regarding their value in the prevention of adolescent risk behaviors.