

A Note to Parents and Guardians:

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for you and your child’s interest in attending the CADCA National Leadership Forum in an effort to address and prevent youth substance use prevention in our community. The Easton Wings of Hope coalition seeks to engage youth and adults in youth substance use prevention to impact the health and wellbeing of Easton residents. Our mission is focused around education, awareness, and policy change, all of which the CADCA National Leadership Forum provides training on. Through community partnerships and collaboration, Easton has seen a high school lifetime use rate decrease of 19.9% for vaping, 20.4% for alcohol, and 15.7% for marijuana between the coalition’s founding in 2015 and the most recent data collection in 2021. We see through this data that prevention works.

The coalition has sought to engage youth since its founding. In 2022, the coalition was able to send 5 students from Oliver Ames High School to the event, and in 2023, 8 students, then including middle school students. This engagement has helped train students who are invested in prevention to be leaders in their community. By signing up for this trip, your student is displaying the ability and willingness to be regularly involved with the coalition. We have asked them through their trip application if they can see themselves participating in substance use prevention activities regularly with Easton Wings of Hope. This includes monthly coalition meetings at alternating locations of OAHS and the Easton YMCA. Students also have extra fun event and volunteer event opportunities through their involvement.

Students who attend are able to attend this four-day conference with room & board, some meals, and travel all paid for through federal grant dollars awarded to Easton Wings of Hope. We ask that you be mindful of the commitment your student is making by attending this all expenses paid conference.

Student involvement is defined as attending roughly 75% of meetings. We understand that your child is growing, changing, and has a plethora of demands that come with being a middle/high school student.

The purpose of this letter is to develop an understanding and agreement of the expectation that exists with the investment being made for your student.

I have read the previous statements and understand the financial commitment Easton Wings of Hope is taking on for the benefit of my student. I agree to make meetings a priority and do my best to ensure my student’s continued involvement. Should my student’s schedule no longer be feasible, I agree to either ensure their communication, or communicate myself their future absence.

Parent/Guardian Name (print) _____

Student Name (print) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____