The business community in Allen, Auglaize, and Hardin county is faced with the challenge of finding a workforce that is drug free and ready to work. But an even greater challenge for the whole community is to inspire the next generation to become that solid workforce for our community.

We Care at Work is an innovative program that combines a solid drug free workplace policy with high quality employee education and easy referral to local services. Many employees in our businesses have children and the education employees receive about drugs and alcohol on the job they are likely to take home and talk about to their children. Children whose parents talk to them about drugs are less likely to ever use drugs. In this way, We Care at Work companies fulfill both goals:

- 1. A workforce that is drug free and ready to work, and
- 2. A new generation of ready and willing workers for our communities.

The next session of We Care at Work begins on March 16. It involves 3 classroom sessions and an individual session with each company. More than 35 companies have graduated from the program already.

You can find out more about We Care at Work by clicking - HERE.

You can schedule an individual overview with me by emailing: mike@mhrsb.org

With the changes in the law around marijuana, every business needs to be up to date with their drug free workplace policy. Take a moment now to sign up for our next class <u>HERE</u>.

Mike Schoenhofer Executive Director Mental Health and Recovery Services Board