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17th Annual 'Taking the Lead' Youth Summit

Lynchburg, VA – The Coalition for HIV Awareness and Prevention (CHAP) of Central Virginia proudly presents the 17th Annual 'Taking the Lead' Youth Summit to be held on Saturday, March 16th at the Jubilee Family Development Center from 9:00am to 3:00pm. The Summit will feature nationally acclaimed speaker and performing artist, Shaun Derik. Organized by the Coalition for HIV Awareness and Prevention (CHAP) of Central Virginia, this event is brought to the community for free in an effort to educate and empower youth, ages 11-19, as well as their parents and guardians on the importance of staying drug-free and supporting one's mental health. The Summit will include key information on tackling negative self-talk, effective communication, substance use education, navigating school challenges and goal setting. In addition, a 'Parent's Corner' session will be available for parents and guardians.

Chairman of the Coalition for HIV Awareness and Prevention (CHAP) of Central Virginia, Debra Jefferson, says, "We know this event is important in our community because we see evidence of the positive and empowering impact it has been having on our youth for the past 17 years. It empowers our youth to take the lead by making positive choices in their life."

[Early registration](#) for the event is now open. Gift cards and other prize giveaways will be distributed at the event.

The Coalition for HIV Awareness and Prevention (CHAP) of Central Virginia is a local nonprofit organization that educates the community about HIV/AIDS, coordinates services for people with HIV/AIDS as well as their families, and supports Central Virginia's efforts to prevent and treat HIV/AIDS.

The 2024 Youth Summit is proudly sponsored by CHAP-Coalition for HIV Awareness and Prevention of Central Virginia, Inc., Horizon Behavioral Health, the Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation, Centra, the Department of Behavioral Health and Development Services (DBHDS), Jubilee Family Development Center, Get H.Y.P.E. Club, Lynchburg Alumnae Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Gamma Iota Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Lynchburg (VA) Chapter of The Links, Inc., Central Virginia Addiction and Recovery Resources (CVARR), Blue Sky International Foundation, Dorothy Swain, First Baptist Church South Lynchburg, Greater Brookville Church, YLDA of Staunton, VACLEAN, LLC, and Whitehead Media Ventures.

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