

Community Relations & Contributions - Global Outreach

Ashland plant hosts new drug and alcohol awareness program

Employees learn how to spot signs of abuse

Recently, the Harmon Avenue plant employees in Columbus, Ohio, participated in a drug and alcohol awareness program hosted by **Al Lombardi**, plant manager, Ashland Speciality Ingredients (ASI).

The program was conducted by [Global Drug Concepts \(GDC\)](#), a recently formed organization of retired law enforcement officers with experience in the field of narcotics and drug trafficking. Members of GDC conduct education programs for state courts, judges, police and fire departments throughout the U.S. and several state, county and city entities.



All Harmon Avenue plant employees attend the GDC presentation.

Jackie Lewis, senior human resources project coordinator, ASI, began increasing the drug and alcohol awareness effort throughout Ashland after learning about the GDC during the Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) conference. Lewis also volunteers at GDC.

After the training, Lewis and the GDC speakers were given a tour of the Harmon Avenue plant. During that time, employees stopped to share their personal stories.

"I cannot thank the GDC members enough," said Lombardi. "A week after the program, all of our associates continued to give nothing but positive feedback regarding the presentation."

GDC recognizes that more than 70 percent of drug abusers in the U.S. are employed and create real problems and potential safety risks within their workplaces. Preventative education, raising awareness and drug education make an impact.

"It serves Ashland well to educate employees and reduce critical safety risks, lost time



Pictured left to right: Rick Wright, ASI; Lombardi; Mike Powell, GDC; Larry Staley, ASI; and Shawn Bain, instructor, GDC.



GDC instructors Bain and Powell, pictured left to right, shared national drug statistics during their presentation.

incidents, provide a valuable education within our organization and possibly save lives," said Lewis.

To learn more about the GDC or if you would like to host a training at your campus, contact [Jackie Lewis](#).



Aaron Denny, ASI, (center) is shown with GDC's Bain and Powell (left and right) at the GDC display table for drug concealment items.

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