

North Providence

"A Community That Cares"

Drug Free Coalition & Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force

- **WHO WE ARE**

We are a hard-working Coalition dedicated to reducing underage drinking and marijuana use in North Providence. Research has shown that 46% of North Providence high school students and 8% of middle school students reported using alcohol and/or marijuana more than 20 times per month. These statistics need to change and our coalition is working to make that change. We need your experience and assistance in reaching our goals to eliminate underage drinking and marijuana use in North Providence.

- **HOPES AND DREAMS FOR YOUR CHILDREN**

Research shows that parents influence youth choices even more than their peers, and frequent, consistent messages from parents to their children about non-use of alcohol and other drugs make a big difference as to whether they choose to engage in underage drinking and drug use. As parents, you are concerned for the safety, health, education and overall well being of your children. You want to do your best to see them be successful and enjoy a positive quality of life. We all realize that "one bad choice" has several consequences, some of them even long-term.

- **COALITION MEMBERSHIP**

Our Coalition and its members share a common vision: to create a safe, healthy environment for families and youth to thrive. As a valued member, we are looking to expand our membership with individuals from various community sectors (i.e. business, civic, religious, health, education, etc.) along with parents and youth who can contribute to the overall goal to reduce underage drinking and marijuana use in North Providence.

- **COALITION WORK**

The Coalition is made up of seven sub-committees each with specific duties and tasks to reach our goals. These committees include Key Leader Board; Special Events; Prevention Education; Parent/Caregiver Outreach; Communications; Policy & Procedures; and Assessment/Evaluation. With these committees, our goal is to provide information and trainings for parents, youth and the general community about the dangers of underage drinking and marijuana use. We need parents to work with youth to help create a weekly news brief to send home to parents/caregivers to keep them in the loop on these important issues. There are so many goals and ways we can reach and involve the community to help North Providence youth make better decisions.

- **CALL TO ACTION**

We encourage all parents/caregivers to "not turn a blind eye". Set clear expectations for your children **TO NOT** use alcohol and illegal drugs. It **CAN** happen to your children. No family is immune to this happening to them. Be part of the solution and join us at our next Coalition meeting **Wednesday, September 19th at 6:30pm in the North Providence High School Library.** You will learn about our sub-committees and see where you might contribute your knowledge and willingness to help us reach our goals.

**** For more information you may contact:**

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