



SAFE HOMES

Created for you by
Wayne Parents Care,
a subcommittee of the
Wayne Alliance for the
Prevention of Substance
Abuse

What is *SAFE HOMES* ?

- The Safe Homes Parent Network is designed to assist parents and communities in preventing children from using alcohol, tobacco or other drugs.
- It is based on reach and best practices and offers solid theory and practical solutions for parents and communities.
 - **GOOD DRUG PREVENTION WORKS!**

What is 'Safe Homes'?

- It is a pledge-based drug prevention program that states "my home is safe for your child to visit."
- It provides parents an opportunity to talk with each other and to unite in a clear message to all youth that there will be *NO USE* of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs in your home.
- Sign up to be a **SAFE HOME**

alliance@waynetownship.com

or 973-694-1800 x 3244

Mission Statement

Parents, adults and community working together for a drug-free youth

- Goal: To develop a community-wide coalition of parents and adults working together to implement the Safe Homes Parents Network in their homes, schools and community.
- Objectives: Parents/adults will supervise all gatherings of youth in their homes or on their property.
- Families will not allow the possession or use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs by youth in their homes or on their property.
- Parents/adults will know where their children are; will oversee their activities, and will set appropriate expectations and consequences for their behavior.

Expectations As A Member

- Set age –appropriate family guidelines for your children and KNOW:
- Where your children are;
- Whom they are with;
- What they are doing;
- When they are expected home
- What the consequences are if rules are broken

- Actively support and enforce a clear, consistent message and policy for all youth that there will be NO USE of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.
- Talk to other parents and agree on expectations and rules for your children and the consequences for a youth who breaks the rules. Welcome a phone call from other parents supporting your combined commitment.
- Provide support for other parents in your joint efforts to have safe, healthy, drug-free homes and communities.

COMMUNICATE

With your child

- That being drug free is the “norm” in our home
- That there are clear, consistent, “expectations” for their behavior
- What the “consequences” for actions will be

With other parents

- That our home is a safe, healthy, drug-free place for all youth
- That all gatherings for youth are actively supervised by responsible adults
- That we welcome a call or communication from all parents

■ With other youth

- That there will be no possession, serving, or use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs in our home or on our property
- That there will be regular contact with their parents
- That the “expectations” are the same for all SAFE HOMES Parents Network families

Family Guidelines

- Inform your children that you have joined the SAFE HOMES Parents Network
- Discuss with them why you believe this is important
- Know where your children are, whom they are with, what they are doing and when they re expected home
- Know ahead of time **what** the consequences will be if they are not where they agree to or are late in coming home.
- Be awake when they come home
- Let your children know where **you** will be
- Assure your children that they can call you to be picked up wherever and whenever needed.
- Get to know your children's friends and their parents.

Social Activities & Events

- Be aware that parties, sleepovers, gatherings, and other activities for youth are being held WITHOUT adult supervision(or any supervision) and that alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs are commonly present.
- Be aware that the use of alcohol has many dangerous consequences: loss of inhibitions, suicide, sexual promiscuity, violence, crimes and death.
- Both adults and young people need to know that alcohol is not to be equated with "fun" or "party." This is an idea encouraged by the alcohol industry.
- Parents need to support each other in hosting drug-free activities and encouraging young people to attend drug-free events.

- ***If your child is invited to an event or party:***
- Call the host parent and introduce yourself.
- Verify with the parent the occasion and location.
- Verify that there will be NO alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs allowed, served, provided, or available **at all**.
- Check that there will be active, responsible, adult supervision at all times.
- If the activity seems inappropriate, express your concern to the parent and to your child; keep your child home and plan another activity.

- ***If you are the host parent:***
- Encourage “by invitation only” activities.

- Never permit “party Crashers.” Use a guest list if you have to.
- Be a visible, active host. Tell guests who choose to leave the activity they may not return. Call the parents of youth who leave and inform them so they know you are no longer supervising their child.
- Never allow anyone “under the influence” to leave (must be with an adult). Call the parents or police.

- For more information about SAFE HOMES or any other program sponsored or supported by the Wayne Alliance, please call 973-694-1800 x3244 or e-mail alliance@waynetownship.com
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- **This program is adapted from Pride-Omaha, Inc.**