



Prevention News

November 2011

What is the Tiverton Prevention Coalition?

The Coalition envisions a community that embraces and promotes the health and safety of all its residents. The Coalition is an organized group of volunteers focused on effective community based substance abuse prevention activities. The Prevention Coalition is dedicated to helping youth and their families through Education, Engagement and Resources.

Education: The coalition is committed to providing information about the risks associated with underage drinking, the use of illicit drugs and the illegal use of prescription drugs, and other difficult topics that affect the health and safety of our community's youth.

Engagement: The Coalition seeks to engage all members of the community to promote health and well-being among our young people. The Coalition partners with the police and school departments, state and local government, businesses and individuals to address the prevention needs of Tiverton. Community members are welcome allies in the work of the coalition. The Coalition meets monthly - new participants are welcome at any time.

Resources: The Coalition is a resource to the community. With access to the latest research and best practices regarding youth substance abuse, the Coalition is the local authority on prevention.

The Coalition's approach to prevention is not simply to STOP risky behaviors, but to promote positive activities and encourage healthy lifestyles.

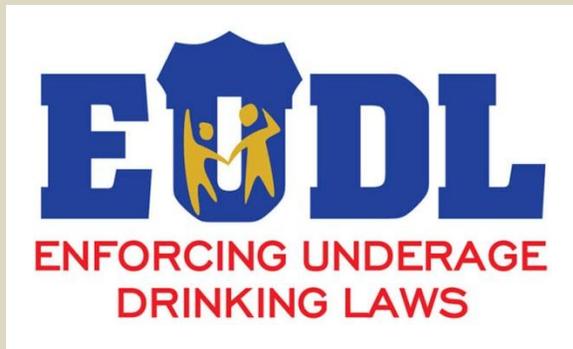
Drug Free Community Grant Received

The Tiverton Prevention Coalition has received a \$125,000 grant to help it continue its work to prevent drug abuse among young people in Tiverton, especially involving marijuana and prescription drugs.

The award is part of \$12.3 million distributed to 87 communities nationwide as part of the Drug Free Communities Support Program.

"Efforts to keep our youth drug free are critical to a healthy and safe community," said Tiverton Coalition coordinator Rebecca Elwell. "The Drug Free Communities program recognizes the great potential of The Tiverton Prevention Coalition to help change lives. This new funding will allow the Coalition to mobilize and organize the community to prevent and reduce youth substance use."

The Tiverton Prevention Coalition application was selected from 452 applicants through a competitive process.



Coalition starts 3rd year of EUDL Grant

October 1st started the third and final year of the Coalition's Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Grant. The EUDL grant, \$30,000 per year received from RI Mothers Against Drunk Driving, funded many of the Coalition's recent projects addressing efforts to combat underage drinking.

Coalition Praises Liquor Stores for Combating Underage Drinking

Most recently the EUDL grant supported a Coalition breakfast meeting on October 4 at Family Ties Restaurant for all five of the Tiverton and Little Compton package stores.

The store owners and staff were congratulated on their "outstanding record of compliance" with checking id's to prevent underage youth from purchasing alcohol in their establishments.

At the meeting, the group was shown the latest in ID checking technology demonstrated by James Staples of J.B.S. Professional Services, Boston. All of the stores were presented with the newest hand-held ID checkers, and two were also given to the Tiverton Police Department.

Tiverton Police Chief Thomas Blakey commented on the cooperation the establishments have demonstrated through compliance checks the police department runs throughout the year. He said that there have not been any sales to minors discovered through the compliance checks in Tiverton in the past several years.

Owners and managers from Adamsville Wine and Spirits, Goulart's Package Store, Crossroads Liquors, and Stone Bridge Package Store attended the meeting. Their efforts were acknowledged by Rebecca Elwell of the Tiverton Prevention Coalition.

Ms. Elwell thanked Chief Blakey and the package store staffs and management for their continuing cooperation in helping to provide a community response to underage drinking.



Members from area liquor stores attend a breakfast at Family Ties in Tiverton to be recognized for strong ID check compliance for underage drinking. It was held by the Tiverton and Little Compton Prevention Coalitions. Credit Ray Davis

Does your "don't do drugs" talk include the ones in the medicine cabinet?

DID YOU KNOW?

70% of people age 12 and older who abuse prescription painkillers say they get them from relatives and friends.

What can a parent do?

Follow these three important steps:

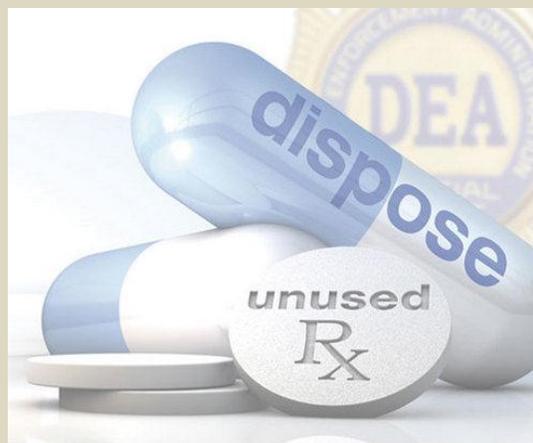
Step 1: MONITOR Know what prescription drugs are in your home. Make sure friends and family (especially grandparents) are also aware of the risks

Step 2: SECURE Keep all medicines (prescription and over the counter) in a safe place, such as a locked cabinet.

Step 3: DISPOSE Safely dispose of expired or unused drugs by participating in a drug take back program or by crushing up drugs and mixing with used coffee grounds or kitty litter in a zip lock bag before throwing out.

Need more information about this dangerous nationwide trend?

Visit: www.notinmyhouse.drugfree.org
and www.theantidrug.com



Parenting is Prevention

Parents, please remember you are the first line of defense when it comes to your child's drug use or drinking. And you truly make a difference! Nearly two-thirds of teenagers see great risk of upsetting their parents or losing the respect of family and friends if they smoke marijuana, drink or use other drugs. Set clear rules, limits and expectations and don't forget to praise and reward for good behavior.

Coalition Upcoming

Dates:

November 21 9 a.m.

Coalition Meeting @ THS Conference Room
All are welcome

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