

## Be Part of the Solution: Our Kids, Our Responsibility

Under its 2014 New York State Office of Addiction Services and Support (NYS OASAS) Partnership For Success (PFS) Grant, MTAC contributed to the reduction of prescription drug and opioid misuse and reduced access to prescription drugs in the homes of Massapequa residents.

Let's continue to work together to protect the future of Massapequas' youth and young adults. Join MTAC's *Secure Monitor Dispose* Campaign:

- Remove drugs from your medicine cabinet by hiding them, locking them up or taking them out of your house.
- Safeguard all medicines by monitoring quantities and controlling access.
- Write down the names and amount of medications in your home and take inventory regularly.
- If your child is on prescribed medication, secure and monitor the dosages and refills. Set rules such as not sharing and always following proper dosage.
- Warn youth that taking prescription or over-the-counter drugs without a doctor's supervision can be as dangerous as taking street drugs.
- Supervise your child's internet use. Many pharmacy websites are not regulated and will sell medication without a prescription.
- Attend an MTAC or local naloxone training to learn proper administration in case of an opioid overdose.
- Dispose of prescription drugs at MTAC and local drug take back events, or bring them to a Nassau County Police Precinct where disposal bins are located in the lobby (no liquids).

To learn more about our programs or our next meeting, email us at [info@mtacoalition.com](mailto:info@mtacoalition.com) or go to [mtacoalition.com](http://mtacoalition.com).

## PROTECT OUR FUTURE

## SECURE | MONITOR | DISPOSE YOUR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

[mtacoalition.com](http://mtacoalition.com)

## Massapequa Takes Action Coalition (MTAC)

MTAC is comprised of local, state and national stakeholders and partners who share a strong belief that we must work together to reduce underage drinking and substance misuse as well as sustain our efforts. Working together, we utilize evidence based strategies to promote healthy families.

### Stakeholders & Partners

- Arlo Drug Store of LI, Inc.
- CenterPoint Church- Massapequa
- Chief's Challenge, Massapequa High School
- Community Action for Social Justice
- Harbour Greene Association
- Healthcare Professionals
- Long Island Prevention Resource Center
- Massapequa Chamber of Commerce
- Massapequa Council of PTAs
- Massapequa Elks Lodge #2162
- Massapequa Post
- Massapequa Police Activity League
- Massapequa Public Library
- Massapequa Public Schools
- Nassau County Department of Human Services Office of Mental Health, Chemical Dependency & Developmental Disabilities Services
- Nassau County District Attorney's Office
- Nassau County Police Department, 7th Precinct
- New York National Guard Counterdrug Task Force
- New York State 8th Senate District Office
- New York State Assembly District Office 9
- New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (NYS OASAS)
- Red Watch Band, Massapequa High School
- Rotary Club of the Massapequas
- St. Rose of Lima
- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), Massapequa High School
- Town of Oyster Bay
- Village of Massapequa Park
- YES Community Counseling Center (YESCCC)
- YESCCC's Partnering in Action Change for Tomorrow (PACT) Initiative



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## WORKING TOGETHER to prevent substance misuse and promote healthy families



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## Mission & Success of Massapequa Takes Action Coalition (MTAC)

The mission of Massapequa Takes Action Coalition (MTAC) is to prevent substance misuse to promote a healthy Massapequa. Since 1997, we have been collaborating with Massapequa Public Schools, parents, residents, law enforcement, clergy, private and non-profit agencies, businesses and federal, state and local governments to enhance our efforts.

In 2018, MTAC was awarded the prestigious Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Grant Program through the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The Drug-Free Communities Support Program is our nation's leading effort to mobilize communities to prevent youth substance misuse.

The DFC Grant Funding targets past 30-day use of alcohol and marijuana for Massapequa's youth (grades 7 to 12) as some rates (grades 10 to 12) are above state and national norms.\*

Alcohol and drug use at an early age is an important predictor of the development of a substance use disorder later on in life. The majority of those who have a substance use disorder started using before age 18 and developed their disorder by age 20 (National Institute on Drug Abuse).

When parents talk with their children early and often about alcohol and other drugs, they protect their children from many of the high-risk behaviors associated with using these drugs.

Only 54% of Massapequa youth (grades 6-12) report talking to at least one parent in the past year about alcohol and 55% discussed drug use.\*

**ALCOHOL AND TEENS  
DON'T MIX!**

**Be Their Guide. Don't Provide.**

## MTAC's Efforts to Reduce Underage Drinking & Marijuana Use

MTAC's prevention campaigns, *Alcohol and Teens Don't Mix* and *Kids & Weed Don't Roll Together*, are designed to educate parents, guardians and community residents to the dangers and consequences of underage drinking and youth marijuana use.

### Did You Know...

- In the Massapequas, youth, on average, first use marijuana before the age of fifteen.\* When marijuana use starts before age 18, approximately 1 in 6 people will become addicted (Centers for Disease Control).
- By the time Massapequa youth reach 12th grade, their perception of risk/harm from marijuana use decreases by 50% compared to that of 7th grade students.
- Research shows that marijuana use negatively affects movement, timing and coordination as well as causes damage to the lungs - all things that can harm athletic performance (National Institutes on Drug Abuse). Research also shows an increase in car crash risk with marijuana use.\*\*



- Massapequa High School youth (grades 9-12) report getting alcohol at parties (22%) as well as with (10.5%) and without (11.6%) their parents' or guardians' permission.

Parents and guardians should be aware of Nassau County's Social Host Law as you and anyone over the age of 18 are breaking the law if you give *alcohol, marijuana or opiates* to your teen's friends who are under the age of 21, under any circumstance. You can learn more about the social host law on our website at [mtacoalition.com](http://mtacoalition.com)

To join MTAC or to learn more about our efforts to promote healthy families, go to [mtacoalition.com](http://mtacoalition.com) or like us on Facebook. 

## Working Together to Prevent Substance Misuse & Promote Healthy Families

MTAC's culture of collaboration with Massapequa Public Schools and the community includes prevention education aimed at reducing underage drinking and youth substance misuse.

- Drug Take Back Events are scheduled throughout the year to promote our *Secure Monitor Dispose* Campaign message and provide a safe and supervised local location for community members to dispose of unused or expired medication.
- Parent Forums/Mandatory Prom Parent Meetings provide parents, residents and youth with valuable and up-to-date information on critical topics, including cyberbullying and bullying prevention, warning signs of substance misuse, how to get help and parental responsibilities to deter underage drinking under the Nassau County Social Host Law.
- Community Cleanups are scheduled throughout the year to improve public places and community "hot spots" where youth drink alcohol and use illegal substances. Recent efforts include *Keep the Preserve Pristine* where Massapequa law enforcement, community residents and youth worked together to clean-up the Massapequa Preserve and increase surveillance of the area.
- TIPS (Training for Intervention Procedures) Training is a free evidence-based training provided FREE to businesses that serve or sell alcohol. The training is designed to prevent intoxication, drunk driving and underage drinking.
- SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment) is an evidence-based program that health care providers and pediatricians use to screen patients for a substance use disorder. In partnership with Massapequa Public Schools, parents are encouraged to ask their child's doctor to utilize this screening tool during their child's annual health exam.

**Data Source:** \*2020-21 PACT Schools DFC Core Measures Survey Results for Massapequa Public Schools Grades 6-12

\*\* National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

