

Be Part of the Solution: Our Kids, Our Responsibility

While young adults (ages 18 to 25) who misused prescription pain relievers did not access them in the home,** 51% of Massapequa youth (grades 7 to 12) who misused prescription pain relievers found them at home.*** We must continue to work together to protect the future of Massapequa's youth and young adults.

SECURE, MONITOR, DISPOSE of Prescription Drugs!

- 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, 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).

Join MTAC's efforts by attending a general meeting or prevention education program. Email us at info@mtacoalition.com.

PROTECT OUR FUTURE

SECURE | MONITOR | DISPOSE
YOUR PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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 to reduce prescription drug and opioid misuse. MTAC works tirelessly to support and educate our community about the dangers and prevention of substance misuse. Working together, we utilize evidence-based strategies to promote healthy families.

Stakeholders & Partners

- Chief's Challenge, Massapequa High School
- Community Action for Social Justice
- Healthcare Professionals
- Long Island Prevention Resource Center
- Massapequa Chamber of Commerce
- Massapequa Council of PTAs
- Massapequa Elks Lodge #2162
- Massapequa Post
- 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



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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. We proactively address the factors in our community that increase the potential for substance misuse, and we promote protective factors that help our youth grow up healthy and drug free. 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.

Since 2014, under the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (NYS OASAS) Partnership For Success (PFS) Grant, Massapequa Takes Action Coalition has contributed to the reduction of prescription drug and opioid misuse and reduced access to prescription drugs in the homes of Massapequa residents.

Our PFS Grant has:

- Developed marketing campaigns to provide residents with tips to secure, monitor and dispose of unnecessary medications
- Helped healthcare providers and patients determine when and how opioids should be prescribed for chronic pain
- With our partner, YES Community Counseling Center, trained over 800 residents to administer naloxone which reverses an opioid/heroin overdose

Our efforts have contributed to:

- A 35% reduction in nonfatal opioid overdoses*
- Decreases in consumption of pain relievers (70%), stimulants (56%) and tranquilizers (41%)**
- Increases in young adults not using prescription drugs without a prescription**
- Tremendous decreases in access to prescription drugs in the home**


MTAC's Efforts to Reduce Underage Drinking & Marijuana Use

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.

MTAC continues its work under the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) including Assessment, Capacity Building, Strategic Planning, Implementation and Evaluation. MTAC conducts community assessments to prioritize efforts to prevent and reduce youth substance misuse. The assessments are used to plan and implement data-driven, community-wide strategies that address Massapequa's complex social issues.

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.*** In addition, the average age of first alcohol and marijuana use in the Massapequas is below the age of 15.***

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).

To join MTAC or to learn more about our efforts to promote healthy families, go to 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. Our programs and outreach engage our community so together we can prevent further substance misuse and fatalities in the Massapequas:

- **Drug Take Back Events** are scheduled throughout the year to promote our "Secure, Monitor, Dispose" message and provide a safe and supervised central location for community members to dispose of unused or expired medication.
- **Parent Forums** provide parents, residents and youth with valuable and up-to-date information on critical topics including cyberbullying and bullying prevention, as well as the warning signs of substance misuse and how to get help.
- **Red Watch Band** is implemented at Massapequa High School (MHS) and Ames Campus to reduce the harm of binge drinking and create a dialogue with youth to change the binge drinking culture among teens.
- **Too Good for Drugs** is an evidence-based curriculum administered by MHS social workers in the Alternative High School. In partnership with YES Community Counseling Center, it is also implemented in all Massapequa elementary schools. It focuses on building a healthy foundation for a drug-free and violence-free life.
- **A Mandatory Prom Parent Meeting** is required for parents of students attending MHS prom. Discussion focuses on parental responsibilities to deter underage drinking under the Nassau County Social Host Law.
- **Community Outreach** includes working with youth, adults, seniors and residents to increase awareness and educate our community about substance misuse.

Data Sources:

*Nassau County Police Department

**2018 NYS OASAS Young Adult Survey

***2018 NYS OASAS PFS YDS Survey (grades 7 to 12)