

Key Activities

- ◆ Provide community education on opioid and other substance misuse prevention, reduce stigma and share treatment option resources
- ◆ Educate parents about the laws and consequences of hosting parties and supplying alcohol to teens
- ◆ Distribute information to parents on the importance of communicating their disapproval of substance use to their child
- ◆ Offer guest speakers and movie screenings on substance use and stress to community members
- ◆ Conduct student and parent surveys to assess coalition goal achievements
- ◆ Deliver QPR & CONNECT suicide prevention trainings to community members
- ◆ Promote the prescription medication drop box in partnership with the Fairfield Police Department
- ◆ Support the Parent Connect program in partnership with Fairfield Counseling Services
- ◆ Provide Vaping and Smoke Stoppers program incentives and educational programming
- ◆ Connect and collaborate with stakeholders across community sectors

Alcohol use among Fairfield youth has decreased 27% since 2008



THE TOWN RESOURCE FOR HEALTHY CHOICES

For more information on how you can support the efforts of Fairfield CARES, please contact:

Fairfield CARES Community Coalition
c/o First Selectman's Office
725 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT 06824

Media Contact:
fairfieldcares@fairfieldct.org

www.fairfieldct.org/fairfieldcares



in partnership with
The HUB CT
Behavioral Health Action
Organization for
Southwestern CT
A division of the Regional
Youth Adult Social Action
Partnership (RYASAP) www.thehubct.org



 **positivedirections**
THE CENTER FOR PREVENTION AND COUNSELING
www.positivedirections.org
Fairfield Counseling Center
www.fcsinc.org



THE TOWN RESOURCE FOR HEALTHY CHOICES

Fairfield CARES
Community
Coalition

Promoting Healthy Choices

#LifeNotWasted

CHANGE
the **SCRIPT**

Who We Are...

As the designated local prevention council, we are a community coalition collaborating among schools, parents, law enforcement, clergy, businesses, counseling, Fairfield town departments and other youth serving organizations dedicated to:

- ◆ the promotion of healthy choices
- ◆ positive youth development
- ◆ substance abuse prevention



Your unused medication can be a prescription for trouble.

MediReturn
medication drop box

**MEDICATION DROP BOX
FREE - SAFE - ANONYMOUS**

Keep unused medications safe from our kids, and out of our water supply and landfill. Bring medications in original containers with the label removed.

Accepted: prescription, over-the-counter, pet medication, vitamins/supplements, patches and ointments, medication samples

Not Accepted: inhalers, needles (sharps), hydrogen peroxide, aerosol cans, hazardous waste

Open 365 days/year, 24 hours/day. Fairfield Police Dept. Lobby, 100 Reef Rd.
www.fpdct.com

**90% of drug addictions begin in the teenage years
DELAY- DELAY- DELAY**

Fairfield CARES Works To...

- ◆ Reduce underage drinking and substance abuse in Fairfield
- ◆ Increase awareness regarding the risks of substance use and its impact on individuals, families and the community
- ◆ Collect and utilize data to correct misconceptions among youth and adults about teenage substance use
- ◆ Promote healthy behaviors to increase overall wellness
- ◆ Support and encourage parents to promote a healthy balance of academic success and mental health for their teens and young adults

Kids who learn a lot about the risks of drugs from their parents are up to 50% less likely to use drugs

What Parents Can Do:

- ◆ Talk early and often with your child
- ◆ Set clear rules discouraging drinking and other substance use, and enforce consequences
- ◆ Know that you are the biggest single influence on your teens decision not to drink
- ◆ Be a positive role model
- ◆ Teach kids to choose friends wisely
- ◆ Monitor your child's activities
- ◆ Encourage HS aged children to become members of the Fairfield CARES Youth Committee
- ◆ Become an active Fairfield CARES parent member .



#LifeNotWasted

Underage drinking is unacceptable.
In Connecticut, you could be fined up to \$2,000 per minor you serve, go to jail and be liable in lawsuits for injury or damages.

The "SOCIAL HOSTING" act prohibits providing and/or serving alcohol to a young person (other than your own child) who is under the minimum drinking age of 21. It also requires that any person aware of possession of alcohol by a minor on property they own or are in control of must make reasonable efforts to halt such possession. It may also extend to parents and homeowners who are not on the premises and/or did not provide the alcohol.

This means, the person in control and liable:

- ✓ doesn't have to be present
- ✓ doesn't have to be aware of the drinking
- ✓ doesn't have to be an adult
- ✓ DOES have to attempt to stop any drinking

Consequences

Violation includes but is not limited to:

- ✓ A fine of up to \$2,000 and/or imprisonment
- ✓ Minors may be fined and their driver's license suspended
- ✓ If any of the minors are under the age of 16, Risk of injury may be charged. This is a FELONY.

For more information on the Social Host Laws in CT visit: settherulesct.org

Sponsored by Fairfield CARES Community Coalition and Positive Directions

