

# 2016 Info Brief

### Our Mission

The Milford Prevention Council is a community coalition representing 12 sectors in the community. Through community awareness, education, and the support of law enforcement, the Coalition fosters an alcohol and drug-free community. MPC serves Milford, CT, a town of about 54,000 residents, where children and youth age 17 and under make up 23% of the population.

# Drug Free Communities Substance Abuse Organizations State/ Local/Tribal Government Healthcare Professionals Religious/ Organizations Children Children Communities Parents Business Media Schoole Children Communities Parents Business Media Schoole Children Communities Business Media Schoole Children Schoole Children Communities Business Media Schoole Schoole Children Schoole Children Communities Business Media Schoole Schoole Children Schoole School

### Our Data\*

### **Behaviors**

- 6% have had a drink in the past month
- 8% have ridden as a passenger with a driver under the influence of alcohol
- 21% report binge drinking in the past month
- 7% have used marijuana in the past month
- 3% have used prescription drugs in the past month that were not their own

### **Attitudes**

- 39% of Milford youth feel that a lot of kids in the community are into using marijuana and other drugs
- 29% of Milford youth feel that a lot of drugs are sold in the community
- 60% of Milford youth feel that adults see teenagers as a valuable and important member of the community
- Over 75% of youth report that their family has clear rules discouraging them from drinking or using drugs

## Access

students report that drugs & alcohol are easy to get from a variety of places





**FRIENDS** 



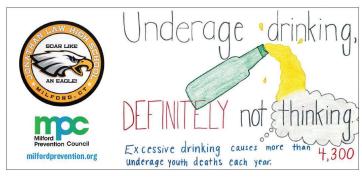
SIBLINGS

### **Prevention Works!**

MPC has been successful in reducing substance use rates among Milford youth

### **Our Efforts**





### **Enforcement & Access**

- Launched the TipSubmit Mobile crime-reporting app, in partnership with the Milford Police Department
- Provide TIPS training (responsible beverage service) and fake ID training for merchants
- Conduct Compliance Checks of local retailers, in collaboration with CT Liquor Commission
- Coordinate Drug Take Back Day events
- Advocate for stronger city and state regulations in areas of concern that impact youth
- Promote a social norms campaign around underage drinking and the Social Host Law

### **Education & Outreach**

- Deliver annual 9th Grade Underage Drinking Forums & annual Senior University program
- Manage, promote and organize multiple community and school-wide speakers and programs with an emphasis on prevention and substance use reduction among youth
- Co-hosted 'A Community Discussion on Connecticut's Opioid and Heroin Addiction Crisis'
- Sponsor annual billboard competition for high school students

# Our Accomplishments



- New partner agency of United Way of Milford
- Continuing fundraising efforts Superhero Fun Run 5K & Family Day, Foran HS Lacrosse Team
- Secured new grants and partnerships to support coalition efforts and sustainability
- Growing social norms campaign billboards, marketing, public media, social media
- Continue to increase amount of medications brought to bi-annual Drug Take Back Days
- Active, involved coalition
- Increased community collaborations

### **MPC Officers**

Wendy Gibbons, LCSW, Program Director Ray Vitali, Chair Lou Lavecchia, Vice Chair Ann Fabian, Treasurer
Diane Candido, Secretary
Martin Schwartzman, Fiscal Representative



Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 3:00 pm at the United Way of Milford. Various sectors of the community are represented at each meeting.

### For information, please contact:

Wendy Gibbons LCSW, Program Director (203) 783 – 6676 wgibbons@bridgesmilford.org

Disclaimer: This Info Brief was developed [in part] under a grant number 5H79SP017178 from the Office of National Drug Control Policy and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The views, policies, and opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of ONDCP, SAMHSA or HHS.