



**For Immediate Release
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Police & Communities Working Together
The Partnership at DrugFree.org Comes to Glen Cove

On March 11, 2011 the Glen Cove Police Department, the SAFE Inc. PRIDE Coalition, and the Glen Cove School District teamed up with The Partnership at Drugfree.org to be trained on the PACT360 - Police And Communities Together program at Glen Cove High School. PACT360 is a law enforcement-led community prevention education system designed to deal with existing drug and alcohol issues and rapidly respond to emerging drug threats. The goal is to help reduce illicit drug use and its accompanying criminal behavior thereby improving the safety and quality of life of the community – a goal that the PRIDE Coalition and Glen Cove Police Department have been working toward in Glen Cove for several years.

The three components of the training included Parents360: Parents You Matter, drug specific modules including heroin and over-the-counter and prescription medication, and Youth360 - wreckED, the youth education program. Each program included teaching materials, media components, and online resources to provide extensive support and resources to program trainees when dealing with drug and alcohol related issues. “The world our kids are growing up in is not the same world we grew up in,” stated Kevin Collins, Deputy Director of Community Education Programs at The Partnership at Drugfree.org. “We can’t bubble wrap our kids, but we want to guide them to having as many positive and healthy experiences as possible.” A turn-key program, the participants of this training are now to trainers and presenters, prepared to spread the information to parents and other caregivers throughout Glen Cove.

Contracting with The Partnership at Drugfree.org, the Glen Cove Police Department is to thank for bringing this training free of charge to our city. The first police department to be trained in this program on Long Island, Glen Cove Police officers remain on the forefront of effective drug and alcohol prevention education.

“I am extremely grateful to The Partnership at Drugfree.org and SAFE, Inc. for providing my officers with this training,” stated Chief William Whitton of the Glen Cove Police Department. “As law enforcement officers and community members, we strive to keep our communities safe and healthy. Without exception, issues surrounding drug use and abuse by the children in our community are taken seriously by the officers in this Department, and I personally welcome any opportunity to expand our anti-drug education reach.”

PACT360 presentations will be showcased throughout Glen Cove at various venues. The goal is to raise awareness among youth and adults while also providing prevention education and literature to safeguard our teens against the potential dangers of drugs and alcohol. The School District and local agencies will be hosting this program, featuring Glen Cove Police officers.

“We are excited to partner with SAFE and the Glen Cove Police Department in offering the PACT360 program at the Boys & Girls Club,” stated Melissa Tierney, Executive Director of the Glen Cove Boys & Girls Club and Co-Chair of the PRIDE Youth Committee. “As an active member of the Coalition, I feel that it is crucial to educate our youth, teens and families on the dangers of substance abuse.”

“This program embraces our goal as a coalition,” stated Dr. Sharon Harris, Executive Director of SAFE, Inc. and PRIDE Coalition Co-Chair. “The PRIDE Coalition and the Glen Cove Police Department have worked tirelessly to utilize environmental strategies in reducing underage drinking and illicit drug use in Glen Cove. The PACT360 program will strengthen these efforts, and has the potential to greatly improve the quality of life in our city.”

For more information on the PACT360 program, visit www.drugfree.org/pact360. To access online resources from The Partnership at Drugfree.org, visit www.drugfree.org, www.timetotalk.org and www.timetoact.drugfree.org. For more information on attending a PACT360 program in Glen Cove, contact the SAFE, Inc. office at (516) 676-2008.