

## For Immediate Release March 10, 2011

## Contact: Paula Castiglia PRIDE Project Coalition

## **PRIDE Coalition: On A Sustainable Track**

The Community-Wide Prevention Team Moves Full Steam Ahead!

On February 11, 2011, the PRIDE Project Coalition met at Page One Restaurant for their first planning meeting of 2011. Motivated to take the Coalition to the next level, each committee presented their plan to take the Coalition to new heights in the next funding year, paving a more sustainable road for the Coalition's future.

Sustainability was the word of the morning, and played a role in each committee's goals and objectives for the upcoming year. "We are looking at Sustainability at a community level – that is, how can we improve the quality of life for Glen Cove residents both now and in the future," stated Dr. Sharon Harris, SAFE Executive Director and PRIDE Coalition Co-Chair. "What are the needs in our community? What are the roles we all must play? These are the questions we ask ourselves to develop a plan for our Coalition that is sustainable. We are so lucky to have such a motivated group of community members, dedicated to our mission."

The PRIDE Coalition is truly a community collaboration, working together to eliminate alcohol and substance abuse among youth and adults in Glen Cove. The Coalition is made up of 12 sectors, each divided in four main committees – Parents, Community, School & Youth. Each committee establishes their own role in how they will work together to accomplish the goals of the Coalition.

The Action plan for the Coalition's future is bright, paved with such programs as the SAFE Homes campaign, SAFE Downtown, and the newly established SAFE Rides campaign. The Coalition's Community Committee recently received their second year of funding of the Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) grant from the New York Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services. Plans for this year's EUDL include continued increased enforcement efforts related to high risk times for underage drinking, a Social Host Hotline at the Glen Cove Police Department, and the OASAS "Underage Drinking: Not a Minor Problem" educational media campaign. Other new programs include the "PACT360 – Police & Communities Together Program", a law enforcement-led community prevention education system provided by the Partnership at DrugFree.org with funding from the United States Department of Justice and Bureau of Justice Assistance.

In 2004, and again in 2008, SAFE, Inc. received a Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grant from the Office of National Drug Control Policy, making it one of only 224 agencies nationwide to be so awarded. The PRIDE Project Coalition is overseen by SAFE's Board of Directors and co-chaired by Executive Director Dr. Sharon E. Harris and Glen Cove School District Health Educator Anthony Gallo.

SAFE Inc. is committed to eliminating teen alcohol use in Glen Cove. Through a combination of prevention, education, and law enforcement efforts, SAFE Inc. combats the devastating effects that can result from underage drinking and drug use in order to build a safer Glen Cove.

For more information regarding SAFE, Inc and the PRIDE Coalition, or to view SAFE Inc.'s Public Service Announcement, visit www.safeglencove.org. Want to follow the PRIDE Coalition on Facebook? Find us at http://www.facebook.com/GlenCovePrideCoalition.