

## SAFE'S PRIDE COALITION

# Is Your Home a SAFE Home?

### *Families Must Protect Homes Against Underage Drinking*

SAFE knows the importance of protecting your family from underage drinking and illicit drug use. This protection starts by safeguarding your home from the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. Youth and teens in Glen Cove need this protection, perhaps more than ever.

The 2010 Bach-Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment indicated that underage alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drug use is a serious problem in Glen Cove. A research tool designed to measure the risks faced by youth and teens in our community, this survey was administered to students grades 6, 8, 10 and 12. The results revealed that the rates reported for using alcohol are above national norms, with 25 percent of students reporting taking part in binge drinking. Students reported a lower perception of risk for alcohol use along with a perception that "everyone is doing it," which may lead to internal pressure to be like "everyone" and use alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs. Most high school seniors report that it is very easy for them to obtain alcohol and tobacco products and drinking and driving rates are as high as 20 percent among this grade level. Overall, students reported easier drug availability in 2010 compared to 2008.

Through a combination of prevention, education, and law enforcement efforts, the SAFE Inc. PRIDE Project Coalition remains committed to combating the devastating effects that can result from underage drinking and drug use in order to build a safer Glen Cove.

Starting this month, the SAFE Inc. PRIDE Coalition will be kicking off their SAFE Homes Campaign. Families will be encouraged to set clear rules and expectations regarding drinking and drug use. Families will then make a commitment to their community, their neighbors, and to each other that their home will be an environment in which underage alcohol use is not permitted and in which substance abuse of any kind by any member of the family will



The SAFE Homes Window Decal will be displayed on the homes of Glen Cove Families who take the SAFE Homes Pledge.

not be tolerated. They will sign the SAFE Homes pledge and display the SAFE Homes decal on their home, affirming that their home is and will always be a safe location for children and young people to visit.

The need for prevention strategies and consistent law enforcement of underage consumption of alcohol and sales has been an ongoing

goal for SAFE Inc.'s PRIDE Project Coalition. 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. In addition, the Coalition works in conjunction with the Glen Cove Police Department under a grant for the Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws. The PRIDE Project Coalition is made up of parents, police personnel, educators, and health care, financial and business professionals and is overseen by SAFE's Board of Directors.

For more information regarding SAFE, Inc and the PRIDE Coalition, participating in the SAFE Homes Campaign, or to view a copy of the SAFE Homes pledge contact the SAFE Inc. office at 676-2008. To view SAFE Inc.'s Public Service Announcement, visit [www.safeglencove.org](http://www.safeglencove.org).

