

SAFE and Kiwanis Key Club help prevent the sale of alcohol to minors

Store owners got a surprise visit on April 24th when members of the Glen Cove High School Kiwanis Key Club stopped by to help broaden the SAFE PRIDE Project Coalition's outreach efforts to get Glen Cove business owners to commit to not selling alcohol to minors. The kids spoke to the business owners about the importance of making this pledge and requested that they display SAFE's decal in the store window. The decal, created by the Coalition's Community Committee and Chaired by Councilman Tony Jimenez is shaped like a stop sign indicating clearly that the establishment will not be selling alcohol to minors.

"The need for prevention strategies and consistent law enforcement of underage drinking and sales has been an ongoing goal for the Coalition since 2004," said Dr. Sharon Harris, Director of SAFE and Coalition Co-Chair. Under the direction of the Community Committee, "The Downtown Business Improvement District has been an active member of the Coalition committed to protecting Glen Cove youth from the dangers of underage drinking. They adopted an initiative years ago called SAFE Downtown, which includes getting a commitment from business owners to not only not sell alcohol to minors, but also to display a decal to let everyone know of their commitment."

At a full Coalition Strategic Plan-

ning meeting in the fall, the initiative was expanded to "SAFE Glen Cove" after reports from Coalition member Lt. Chris Ortiz indicated the need to address other areas in Glen Cove where alcohol is sold said Harris. Through collaborations and full support to rally for this cause from the Glen Cove Chamber of Commerce, the Glen Cove Downtown Business Improvement District, and the Glen Cove Police Department, the Coalition has been able to respond to policing reports and expand its efforts to the entire city of

Glen Cove.

Mary Cooper, a member of SAFE's Board of Directors, said she believed the effort was very valuable not only for the community, but also for the kids in the Key Club. "This gives the kids something to do rather than sitting around with idle time where they might be tempted to do things that they shouldn't do," she said. "We are very appreciative of teacher Mary Ellen Cuomo and the Key Club students for participating in helping SAFE's Coalition to reduce the

sale of alcohol to minors."

For further information on any SAFE, Inc. PRIDE Project Coalition and their initiatives contact Coalition Coordinator Aimee Abraham at (516) 676-2008. SAFE Inc. is a not for profit tax exempt substance abuse education and prevention agency located in Glen Cove. Visit our website at www.safeglen Cove.org and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GlenCovePrideCoalition



Chamber of Commerce President Mary Stanco, Lt. Christopher Ortiz, SAFE Board Director Carol Waldman, City Councilman Tony Jimenez, Rev. William Wendler, SAFE Executive Director Dr. Sharon Harris, Downtown BID Executive Director Francine Koehler, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Phyllis Gorham and SAFE Board Director Mary Cooper. Members of the Kiwanis Key Club joined SAFE, Inc. to help promote the commitment from local businesses to not sell alcohol to underage youth. They Key Club members with their teacher Mary Ellen Cuomo, included, Felicia DeCarolis, Victoria Zumaeta, Jackeline Rivas, Cindy Hernandez and Victor Hoyos.