

## For Immediate Release May 6, 2013

## PRIDE Project Coalition

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

Store owners got a surprise visit on April 24 when members of the 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 Community Committee of the Coalition and Chaired by Councilman Tony Jiminez 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 Planning 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.

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.safeglencove.org and follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GlenCovePrideCoalition