## Are our kids drinking, taking drugs, and smoking? SAFE shares results of youth survey at Town Hall!

The results of the Bach-Harrison Prention Needs Assessment Survey are The survey administered biannually the Glen Cove School District to stunts in grades 6th through 12th were used with the public by SAFE, Inc. Fown Hall on Tuesday, Sept. 16. The vey assessed the current use of alcomarijuana, tobacco and other drugs

Glen Cove youth, I also offered gitude historical a from prior surs to compare and antrast.

"Every commuhas drug and ohol use," said orgie Connett. FE Board Chair 1 Strategic Planfor the Coalition arged with anaing the needs assment data. "Ten irs ago we aped for a drug free nmunity grant change societal ms about alcohol l substance abuse ough a sustaine Coalition. We e accomplished t task as you will here this eveg. Additionally, a indation has been med, entitled the en Cove Commu-PRIDE Foundan. Inc. to continue Coalition's efand support

ed organizations who believe in early vention and healthy lifestyles".

community

The survey is one avenue SAFE, utilizes to support the efforts of the IDE Project Coalition to eliminate g and alcohol abuse among Glen ve youth. Funded by a Drug-Free mmunities Act ("DFC") federal grant, survey is used to gauge the effectives of the Coalition's efforts and to rein cognizant of the areas that need to

Psychologist, shared the information from the survey in a PowerPoint presentation. He said that the survey grants people more information than whether or not young people have used drugs. "We want to know at what age, do they perceive the risk, do the parents disapprove," he added.

Survey Highlights--usage from

graders remained at 0%. As for prescription lifetime drug use, it has decreased between eighth and twelfth graders. Sixth graders' use remains the same at 0%. Tenth graders lifetime use has increased from 2.6% in 2012 to 4.3% in 2014. Sixth grade cigarette use slightly increased. By the time students reach the eighth grade 9.8% have tried smoking

partnership with Sta You and Staff Sergea the National Guard Force so kids in a ba lize the app to get ho

The Coalition's Co-Chaired by Melistive Director of the Coirls Club and Arlen



6th to 12th grade mirrored National norms for substances abuse across the board whether it be alcohol, drugs or tobacco with the alarming exception of the fact that in Glen Cove our 8th graders binge drinking is above the National average. We are getting the message across as we are for the most part on a par with our peers communities, but clearly the challenges are great, and there is more work to be done.

at least once, which is a large increase from sixth grade. Cigarette use between tenth and twelfth graders continues to in-

Following the survey results, representatives of the Coalition's four Committees, all serving our local Glen Cove youth, addressed the audience providing information about the respective committees and their immediate action plan to incorporate this latest data in their fu-

Students from the Ye eloquently at the Te about how they are h nity representing what Cove.

For further information. PRIDE Project (initiatives contact S 2008. SAFE Inc. is a exempt substance ab prevention agency local prevention agency local prevention.

## Tobacco Kills Too Many Vulnerable New York Youth

at American Smokeout Spotlights ssing Need to Help Change the ls

The Great American Smokeout is an ual reminder that quitting smoking is ical for good health. Sadly, the most isk populations in New York haven't n able to quit on this day or any other. e use of Tobacco is still the leading ise of preventable disease and death ing nearly 24,000 New Yorkers every ar and afflicting nearly 600,000 New rkers with serious disease directly atoutable to their smoking. Tobacco is t an equal opportunity killer - there s been no reduction in smoking rates nong low-income adults, adults with or mental health, and those with less an a high school education.

The School Committee of SAFE Inc.'s RIDE Project Coalition will continue eir partnership with the Tobacco Acon Coalition of Long Island to address ese concerns on Thursday, November 1, 2014 in celebration of G.A.S.O at the len Cove High School with students by ringing their attention to reducing their xposure to Tobacco Marketing. The coalition is Co-Chaired by Anthony Callo, GC HS Health Education Teacher nd the School Committee is chaired Denise Kiernan-GC SD Director of lealth, Phys Ed & Athletics.

Executive Director-Dr. Sharon Harris aid, "SAFE's goal is early intervention und prevention education." Dr. Harris continued, "According to the 2014 Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey, Glen Cove's youth showed a rise in lifetime and 30-day Tobacco Use.

Lifetime cigarette use continues to rise into the 10th grade (18.8%) and 12th grade (39.3%)."

The American Cancer Society, sponsor of the annual Great American Smokeout, estimates that 30 percent of cancers could be avoided if people stopped using tobacco. Quitting smoking is the single most important step you can take to reduce your risk of cancer and improve your health.

Per Carol Meschkow-TACLI Nassau Project Coordinator, "For our youth, reducing initiation is the greatest weapon in the effort to prevent addiction. The New York State Tobacco Control Program continues to focus their efforts on youth for a very clear reason. 90% of smokers smoke their first cigarette by the age of 18. It is during these formative years that our youth are most vulnerable to Tobacco Marketing especially at the Point-of-Sale and we are grateful to partner with SAFE and their Coalition Members to prevent the next generation of smokers." SAFE's Board and Executive Dr. Harris do an incredible job of brining together all of the community stakeholders on behalf of their local youth".

For more information on the Tobacco Action Coalition visit: www.breathefreely.org To get help quitting follow the icon for the NY New York State Smokers' Quitline or call 1-866-NY-QUITS.

For further information on SAFE, Inc and their initiatives contact SAFE at: 516-676-2008 or visit the website at www.safeglencove.org

## **Mapping Out A Winning Strategy For Glen Cove**

The PRIDE Project Coalition members held a Sustainability Planning session to learn the results of the Coalition self- assessment (KAIZEN) taken in may and conducted by Sergeant David You and Sergeant First Class Jairo Aquino from the National Guard Counterdrug Task Force (NGCTF). The KAIZEN is designed to help Coalitions become more effective in their work. Coalition Committee Chairs, SAFE Board of Directors and Staff reviewed the results of the Kaizen together

Coalition's Mission and Vision. A meeting will be held with the Board Chair, NGCTF, Coalition Co-Chairs and Committee Chairs to concentrate on the areas of improvement. The National Guard has committed to continue to work with the Coalition, attending Committee meetings as well as conducting future presentations.

For further information on any SAFE, Inc. PRIDE Project Coalition and their initiatives contact SAFE at 516 676-2008. SAFE Inc. is a not for profit tax-exempt