

Oct. 25, 2017

For Immediate Release
Contact: Sharon Harris
SAFE Glen Cove Coalition

SAFE Inc. Sponsors Annual Red Ribbon Week at Glen Cove Schools to Address Substance Abuse Prevention

SAFE kicked off National Red Ribbon Week on October 23rd. The agency annually sponsors and promotes Red Ribbon Week within the Glen Cove School District. Red Ribbon Week is a national drug awareness campaign created in 1985 aimed at addressing the importance of substance abuse prevention.

SAFE Board of Directors and staff, SAFE Glen Cove Coalition volunteers, the Glen Cove Police Department and School Administration showed their support by participating in Red Ribbon celebrations in the District's elementary schools and Finley Middle School. Students embraced the theme of living a healthy, drug free lifestyle and created posters depicting their interpretation of living drug free using this year's National RRW slogan "The Future is Your Key to Stay Drug Free".

The ongoing partnership with the Glen Cove School District allowed each elementary school to hold a special assembly to kick off Red Ribbon Week where students wore red ribbons and learned about the importance of living a healthy lifestyle.

Glen Cove School District students enjoyed presentations by the Glen Cove Police Department, SAFE Coalition members Sgt. Ryan M. Nardone, and Police Officer Ted Karousos. The Police spoke to the students from grades K-8 about the risks of using drugs and the important role that decision making plays in maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Students listened intently while the officers provided real-life stories from their extensive policing experience and students were given the opportunity to ask the officers questions about drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

SAFE's Coalition holds an art contest each year and the winners are announced at each of the Red Ribbon Week assembly's by SAFE Board members and staff and SAFE Executive Director. The purpose of the art contest is to encourage children to commit to making good choices and to be aware of the dangers of drug and alcohol. Winning posters will appear on display in the Children's Room of the Glen Cove Public Library from October 31th - November 16th.

"Red Ribbon Week is an effective way to impart healthy choices to children through a celebration of wellness. It fosters communication between youth and adults about the dangers of substance abuse in a positive fashion" said Georgie Connett, SAFE Board Chair".

SAFE Inc. is committed to the elimination of alcohol and substance use in Glen Cove. For more information about SAFE and its other initiatives, or the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition, please contact the office at: 516-676-2008 or visit the website at <http://www.safeglencove.org> or our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/safeglencovecoalition>.