



Courtesy SAFE

A GROUP OF Glen Cove parents learned about the facts and consequences of social hosting at an event sponsored by the SAFE Coalition and Glen Cove Police Department.

SAFE Coalition and GCPD provide information on social hosting

In preparation for this year's prom season, a group of Glen Cove parents participated in a bilingual Parent University, a program provided by the Substance Abuse Free Environment's parent committee. The event was chaired by Laurent Caballero, a professional parent life skills training facilitator. On May 2, at Deasy Elementary School, Caballero and detective Eddie Lineras discussed the city's social host law, a SAFE Glen Cove Coalition initiative.

Parent University is a program implemented by the coalition to provide free prevention education classes to keep parents aware of drug and alcohol trends. It also helps them to understand the legal ramifications that parent's will experience if they violate the social host law.

According to the 2014 Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey, which provides information on youth alcohol and substance use, the most common place for 6th graders to use alcohol is at home with their parent's permission. For 8th, 10th, and 12th graders, the most common place to use alcohol was at home or at someone else's home without parental permission. Results also demonstrated that about 11 percent of 6th graders, about 20 percent of 10th graders, and about 25 percent of 12th graders reported having been a passenger in a car with a

driver who had been drinking. Of the surveyed 12th graders, about 11 percent reported they had driven after drinking themselves.

In response to these findings, parents were given information about the social host law to combat underage drinking within Glen Cove. Parents learned about their rights as caregivers as well as implications for adults who host parties where alcohol is served to minors. Repercussions range from fines to possible imprisonment for those who have multiple offenses. Parents were reminded to take reasonable corrective actions once they become aware of underage drinking, including instructing the minor to discontinue from engaging in further consumption, contacting a legal guardian, and/or notifying local law enforcement. Lineras concluded his presentation by educating parents on how to recognize the warning signs of underage drinking and substance abuse.

Community members are encouraged to call the social host hotline at (516) 320-7944 if they know someone who is serving alcohol to those underage.

For further information on the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition and their initiatives, call (516) 676-2008 or visit the website at www.safeglencove.org.