April 13th, 2020 Executive Director, Dr. Sharon Harris SAFE, Inc. Glen Cove Coalition safeglencove@yahoo.com 676-2008

## SAFE and Youth Bureau After 3 Life Skills Program Goes Virtual

For over ten years, SAFE has administered after school alcohol and substance use prevention education as part of the Glen Cove Youth Bureau's After 3 Program. Given the COVID pandemic constraints, the program will not be offered to Glen Cove Elementary and Middle School students via virtual instruction.

Life Skills Training (LST) is an evidence-based drug prevention program that incorporates interactive learning, social skills building, and specific drug use prevention-related information in order to provide adolescents and young teens with the confidence and skills necessary to successfully handle challenging situations.

A virtual learning guide has been created enabling SAFE's Social Worker and LST Facilitator Francesca Carbone and her students the ability to continue where they left off in the program. Instruction via Zoom has allowed the Youth Bureau and SAFE to combine the use of technology and remote learning to successfully deliver necessary prevention education.

According to Spiro Tsirkas, Youth Bureau's Executive Director "this hard time for everyone, it's very important for our youth to experience some familiarity and some normalcy. SAFE and the Youth Bureau will continue to work together to provide virtual Life Skills Training weekly. The students will receive important information while having the opportunity to see Ms. Carbone".

The weekly sessions are free to join for any student within the Glen Cove community, as they will be held through a Zoom meeting every Wednesday beginning April 8th with a flyer that has the meeting's ID number and password to gain access. For Connolly and Landing students, their meeting will be held at 2pm-2:40pm and for Finley Middle school students, their meeting will be held at 3pm-3:40pm.

If anyone has any questions regarding the new remote learning they may contact:

Youth Bureau Executive Director, Spiro Tsirkas at STsirkas@glencoveny.gov Youth Bureau Program Coordinator, Carolina Guastella at CGuastella@glencoveny.gov SAFE Social Worker/LST Facilitator Francesca Carbone at swsafeglencove@gmail.com

SAFE is the only alcohol and substance use prevention, intervention and education agency in the City of Glen Cove. To learn more about SAFE's services and programs please visit www.safeglencove.org.