

Get Involved!

There are many ways parents, guardians, and community members can get involved with the SAFE HOMES network.

- Sign the Pledge so your family can be part of the SAFE HOMES network.
- Volunteer to be on the SAFE HOMES planning committee.
- Start a SAFE HOMES Parent Circle with the parents of your child's friends, spread the word!

There is a solution!

For More Information About the **SAFE HOMES** Network in the Bay Shore-Brightwaters community contact:

SAFE HOMES
Bay Shore-Brightwaters COMPASS
Judy Cummings, Chair
631-968-1186

Ann Pacella
Chair, SAFE HOMES
631-968-6435
anns4boys@live.com

Signed pledges can be mailed to
Judy Cummings
Office of HPEA
75 West Perkal Street
Bay Shore, NY 11706

www.bayshore-brightwaters.com/compass.html



Bay Shore-Brightwaters COMPASS - Working together to reduce the incidence of substance abuse and alcohol use among youth.
for more information visit COMPASS at: www.bayshore-brightwaters.com

Bay Shore-Brightwaters SAFE HOMES

A parent networking campaign created to provide support for parents and guardians in their efforts to have safe, healthy, drug-free homes and communities.

Parent Pledge



They're all our kids.
Protect them from alcohol and substance abuse.



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The Safe Homes Pledge

1. *I will actively supervise all gatherings or parties of youth in my/our home or on my/our property, or ask another responsible adult for help to do so.*
2. *I will Not allow the possession or use of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs by youth in my/our home or on my/our property.*
3. *I will set expectations for my/our children by knowing where they are going, whom they are with, what their plans are, and when and how they are to return home.*
4. *I will ensure that all forms of alcohol in my home are not easily accessible to minors.*
5. *I will talk with any parent of a child I personally observe using alcohol, tobacco or other drugs.*
6. *I will allow the parent/guardian of any child who comes to my home permission to call the house for details.*
7. *I will keep prescription drugs under lock and key.*

This is not a legally binding contract, but rather an agreement between members of the SAFE HOMES network.

Name (print): _____

Address* : _____

Phone*: _____

Email _____

Signature: _____

We would like to list your name as a member of the SAFE HOMES network in the SAFE HOMES Directory and other related publications. Please indicate if we may do so.

- Yes you may publish my name & phone number
 Yes you may publish my name, but
 not my number
No, please refrain from including my
 information in these publications.

What is SAFE HOMES?

The SAFE HOMES network is a project for all parents and guardians of children from pre-school through twelfth grade. It provides a way for parents to talk to each other and unite in a clear “NO Use” message to children, maintaining that there will be “NO Use” of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs in their homes or on their property. It is simply a public agreement between parents to follow some simple principles to provide a genuinely safer community for children to grow up in.

Why Should I JOIN?

Joining the SAFE HOMES network lets children know that you care where they are going, whom they are with, what they will be doing, and when they are to return home. It helps parents and guardians establish a clear consistent “No Use” message about alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. Your children should know that you are talking with other parents and that the parents have agreed on some similar rules and guidelines for their children.

What Am I Expected To Do As A Member Of SAFE HOMES?

Parents are expected to talk with their children about the pledge and maintain the pledge principals in their home.

Won't My Child Think I Don't Trust Him/Her?

Trust does not have to be blind trust. Parents have every right to know where their children are, whom they are with and what they are doing. Our children are growing up in a world much different than the one in which we grew up. A child can always be told “I love and trust you but the not the world in which you are growing and I need to now about that world in order to be a good parent to you.”

Keeping your home a SAFE HOME

Sign the SAFE HOMES pledge and discuss your decision with your family.

Always arrange supervision for your children when you expect to be away for an extended period of time.

Call ahead to confirm your child's social plans BEFORE you give permission for him or her to participate.

Make certain that activities are supervised by responsible adults and that they will be alcohol and drug-free. Never be embarrassed to call.

Ensure that any liquor you may have in your home is not easily accessible to minors.

If you plan to be out of town and have left your child at a friend's house, we suggest that you ask the host parent, your next-door neighbor, and possibly the police to keep an eye on your house. This is to discourage impromptu gatherings. Inform your children that you have made these arrangements.

Be a **visible host** when parties or gatherings are taking place in you home. Observe what is happening in subtle ways—replenish the refreshments, remove trash etc.

Be aware that most of youth alcohol and other drug use takes place in homes when parents are absent.

Parents may hesitate to join SAFE HOMES because they feel that their children may never be a problem. You cannot guarantee, however, that other young people coming into your home will not create a problem. **Get to know other parents and remember to use your SAFE HOMES directory.**