

STOP Prescription + Over The Counter Drug Abuse!

Town Talks-Community Presentation For Youth & Adults Metuchen Public Library Wednesday June 24<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Refreshments will be served

## **Description of Program**

The abuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs has become a national epidemic, with an estimated 2,200 teenagers beginning to use prescription drugs without a doctor's guidance every day. The 2013 Monitoring The Future (MTF) survey found that 7 percent of high school seniors reported non-medical use of at least one prescription drug in the past 30 days. That is nearly 600 students in Middlesex County public schools alone.

Recent surveys indicate that there are more new users of prescription drugs for non-medical use than new users of marijuana. The most notable abuse is found with opiate-based pain relievers, central nervous system (CNS) depressants, and stimulants, but there is also evidence of abuse of OTC medications such as cough suppressants containing dextromethorphan (DXM).

*Jason's Message* is designed to educate youth, parents, and professionals about the dangers of abusing prescription and over-the-counter medications. Each presentation is customized to address the specific audience, offering a unique perspective to understanding the problem and clear strategies for prevention.

Jason's Message is clear – prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse is a serious concern.

## Outcomes

Participants come away from this program with a clear understanding of the problems associated with prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse, including a knowledge of prescription drug facts and associated risks. They discover the attitudes, beliefs, and resources that fuel this epidemic and learn how they are in a unique position to combat Rx and OTC drug abuse.

## Presented by NCADD of Middlesex County

Sponsored by The Metuchen Municipal Alliance Planting Seeds for a Drug Free Community Prevention · Education · Awareness