

# New Castle United for Youth

DFC Grant Year 2 Annual Report

December 2018

# Year Two Goals

## Increase Community Collaboration

- Increase Coalition Capacity
- Increase involvement of the youth sector
- Strengthen awareness of Coalition

## Reduce Youth Substance Use

- Reduce availability of alcohol and other substances
- Change culture and context within which decisions are made

# Year Two Strategies Undertaken to Strengthen Capacity & Coalition Awareness

- Enhanced Coalition website
- Created Communication Plan for website and social media
- Participated in town wide community events
  - Summer Concerts
  - Homecoming
  - Community Day
  - Chappaqua Children's Book Festival
- Continued outreach to local organizations including Boys and Girls Club of Northern Westchester, Chappaqua Girl Scouts and Greeley Sports Boosters
- Attended CADCA Leadership Conference

# Year Two Strategies Undertaken for Increased Youth Involvement

- Continued and expanded summer youth internship program for 22 participants
- Sent students to Westchester Youth to Youth meetings and other events
- Sent 3 students to Youth to Youth summer leadership conference
- Summer interns worked with Recreation Department, Police and our faith sector representative
- Hired part-time grant-funded middle school prevention specialist
- Increased youth representation at community wide events

# Year Two Strategies Undertaken for Reducing Availability of Alcohol and Other Substances

- Conducted alcohol compliance checks and distributed compliance certificates
- Funded overtime for New Castle Police to increase weekend patrols during times of potential high alcohol consumption
- Distributed email from Police Department and Chappaqua Volunteer Ambulance Corps about celebration safety
- Raised age for purchase of tobacco and other nicotine products
- Mailed flyer about prescription drug disposal to all town residents

# Year Two Strategies Undertaken for Changing Culture

- Co-sponsored youth volunteer fair to provide youth with opportunities for involvement which is a protective factor for alcohol and other drug use
- Modified detention policy to increase parental cooperation
- Hosted pre-prom parent breakfast and social media posts
- Increased youth summer internship participation including through presence at summer concerts
- Hired middle school prevention specialist
- Partnered with Athletic Director on “Wellness Wednesday” posts

# Year Two Strategies Undertaken for Awareness and Increasing Perception of Risk

- Brought Mega Lungs to Homecoming and Community Day with substance labelling and interactive activities
- Partnered with Northern Westchester Hospital, Town and high school to hold an information session about vaping for parents
- Partnered with SAS counselor to hold vaping presentations for teachers and bus drivers
- Partnered with high school science department to host addiction and brain science speaker Dr. Dewey for parents and science students and distributed PowerPoint to faculty
- Produced website blogs and Facebook posts

# Future Areas of Focus

- Evaluation of past data and strategies
- Physician outreach
- Science of brain development and substance use
- Strengthen youth leadership program and create opportunities for middle school and high school youth to work together
- Binge drinking
- Work with media specialist to train and engage youth and educate community