



Council Members

Lori Walsh, PsyD (Chair)

Matthew Wilson (Treasurer)

Marie Louise Miller

Sarah Epps

Mary Esther Malloy

Laura Heisler Mitton (Secretary)

Lauren Aaronson

Role, background, and structure



The Hastings Youth Council is a Village commission that:

- Provides families with safety and necessities
- Promotes the feeling that all people are valued members of the community
- Promotes interpersonal attachments and relationships between people in our community

7 community volunteers are appointed by the Board of Trustees and the Mayor to oversee and collaborate with the Youth Advocate Program, Youth Employment Services, and WAY (Working Alliance for Youth) Coalition, as well as provide our own programming for families.

Programs we provide and supervise include the Hastings Food Pantry, Hastings K.I.D.S., SAFE Rides, Help A Child, Emergency Assistance, and the Bill Finkeldey Academic Scholarship.

Funded by the 501(c)3 [Friends of the Hastings Youth Council](#)

Formed in 1968 as the Hastings Community Narcotics Council with the goal of eliminating drug problems in the village through educational programs. Over its 54 years, the organization has evolved to reflect needs and research on effective programming to support children and families.

2022 achievements



Organization: Over the past 18 months, the Youth Council underwent a re-organization that has set it up to operate effectively and should ensure that it operates as long as it's needed.

Food Pantry: We adapted to post-COVID realities, re-activating community partnerships (e.g., Hastings Farmers Market, Grace Church, Foodtown) and onboarding with Feeding Westchester, which enables us to distribute food to 120 families with 80% lower operating costs than during the pandemic. We've also increased fresh food distribution by increasing our refrigeration capacity. We are updating our food pantry storage and infrastructure through a generous donation by California Closets that a community member initiated and organized.

Community: The families of 18 children receive birthday, holiday, beginning of school and camp gift cards each year so they have what they need throughout the year. Each Friday and Saturday night, approximately 35 teens get home through Safe Rides making sure that no teens have to walk home in the dark or get in a car with an intoxicated driver. We also provide about 10 families a year with emergency funds to keep their electricity on, internet streaming, and camp fees paid.

2023 challenges and goals



Challenges:

- SNAP benefits, child tax credits, and Medicaid are returning to pre-pandemic levels, which will likely increase demand for social services on a local level
- We're outgrowing our infrastructure
 - 2008 SAFE Rides vehicle
 - Food Pantry occupies multiple rooms in the Community Center, including a former conference room that needs to return to that purpose

Goals:

- Build resilience in our programs by increasing our volunteer involvement and improving our internal and external communication
- Continue to invest in community partnerships to help solve our Pantry space needs
- Launch a new college counseling program to support a level playing field for all kids in our community

Program highlight: Hastings Food Pantry



- We spend an average of \$200 to serve 50-60 families/week, ~120 families total
- Post-COVID, we've focused on reinvigorating our community partnerships
 - Hastings K.I.D.S. have led in-school fundraisers
 - Hastings Booster Club sponsored basketball games raising \$2000 and canned goods
 - Hastings Farmers Market doubled their regular donations of apples and eggs
 - We received a donated commercial fridge from Bloomy and a freezer from DiRiso
 - Family-to-Family helped establish a partnership with Foodtown and Sara Lee Bread
- Feeding Westchester has been a game-changer for us, allowing us to stock basics like rice and pasta as well as produce like cabbage and bananas, while reducing our operating budget for food purchases by 80%
- In 2023, we're focusing on increasing volunteer involvement and redesigning our space to accommodate community needs

Program highlight: Kids Involved in Doing Service (K.I.D.S.)



Book Buddies
Hillside Hikes
Blood Drives
Midnight Run
Supporting the Food Pantry
Raising money for charities
such as The American
Cancer Society and AFYA.



Program highlight: SAFE Rides



**Smart Teens.
Smart Choices.
Call or Text ...
SafeRides!**

**GET HOME
SAFELY!**
any Friday or Saturday night

Hi Hastings teens -

We care about your health, and we want you to be safe. If you need a ride in Hastings, please do not hesitate -- call or text us! And we will drive you wherever you need to go within our village, with no questions asked.

Please put this # in your contacts!

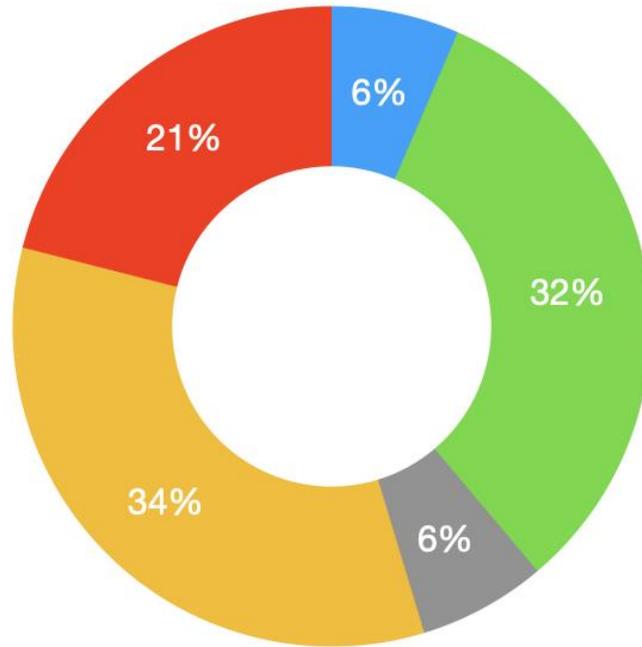
914-478-2471

**FREE, CONFIDENTIAL, & SAFE RIDES
10PM-1AM
FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS**

SafeRides is an effort of the Hastings Youth Council.
For more information, please email hohyouthcouncil@gmail.com.

- Safe Rides provides adolescents with free and safe transportation between the hours of 10 p.m. and 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights. Confidential, “no judgment.”
- The Safe Rides truck was donated to the village in 2010. Over the past year, it has needed regular repairs. An upcoming issue will be how to replace it so this crucial harm reduction program can continue.

2023 Annual Spending



- Special Projects/Programs
- Emergency Assistance for Families
- Finkelday Scholarship
- Food Pantry
- Safe Rides

Y.A.P.



YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAM

Programs

Food Pantry

Safe Rides

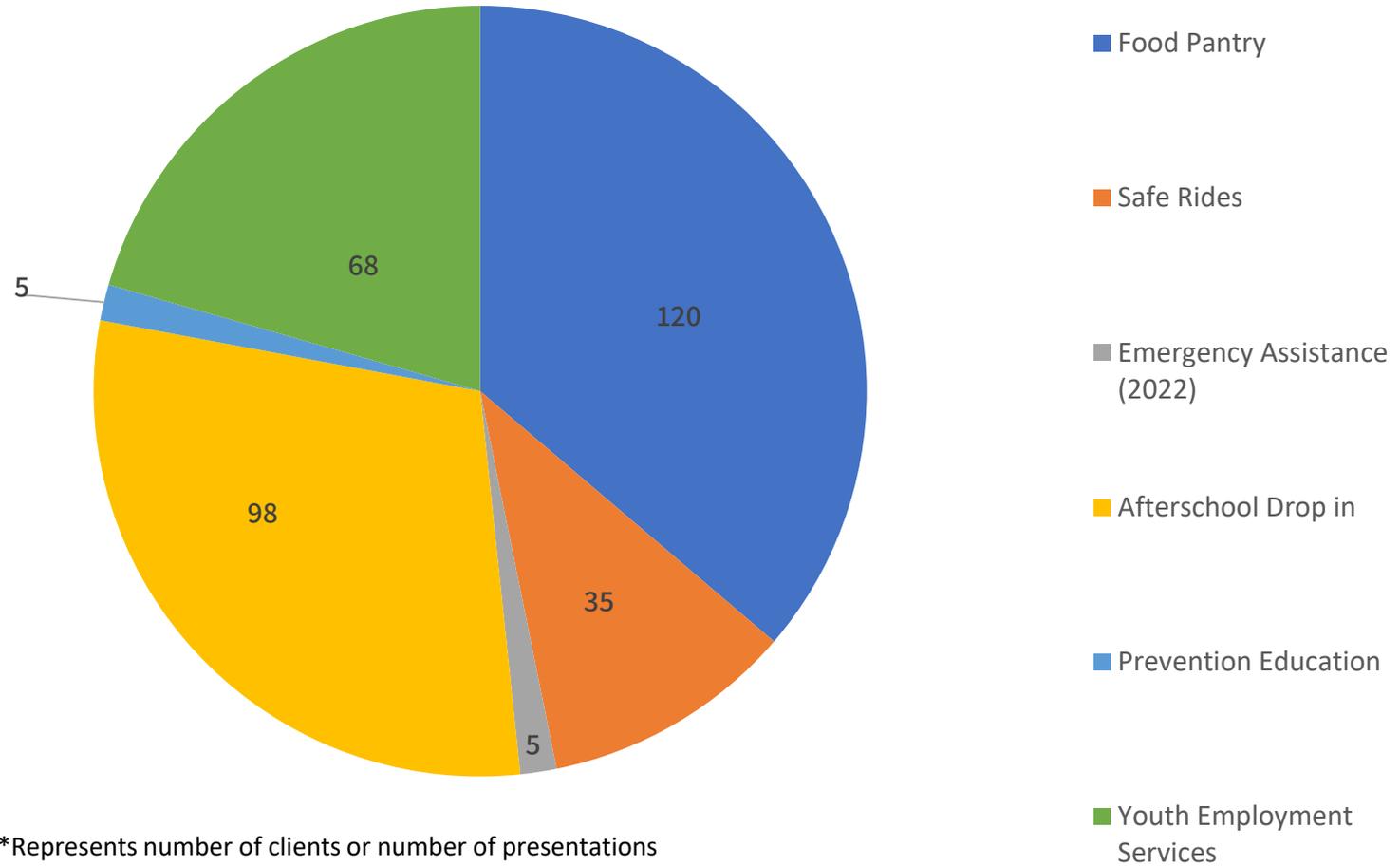
Emergency
Financial
Assistance

After school
drop in

Prevention
Education

Youth
Employment
Services

Service Utilization



Funding Sources

Friends of Hastings Youth Council

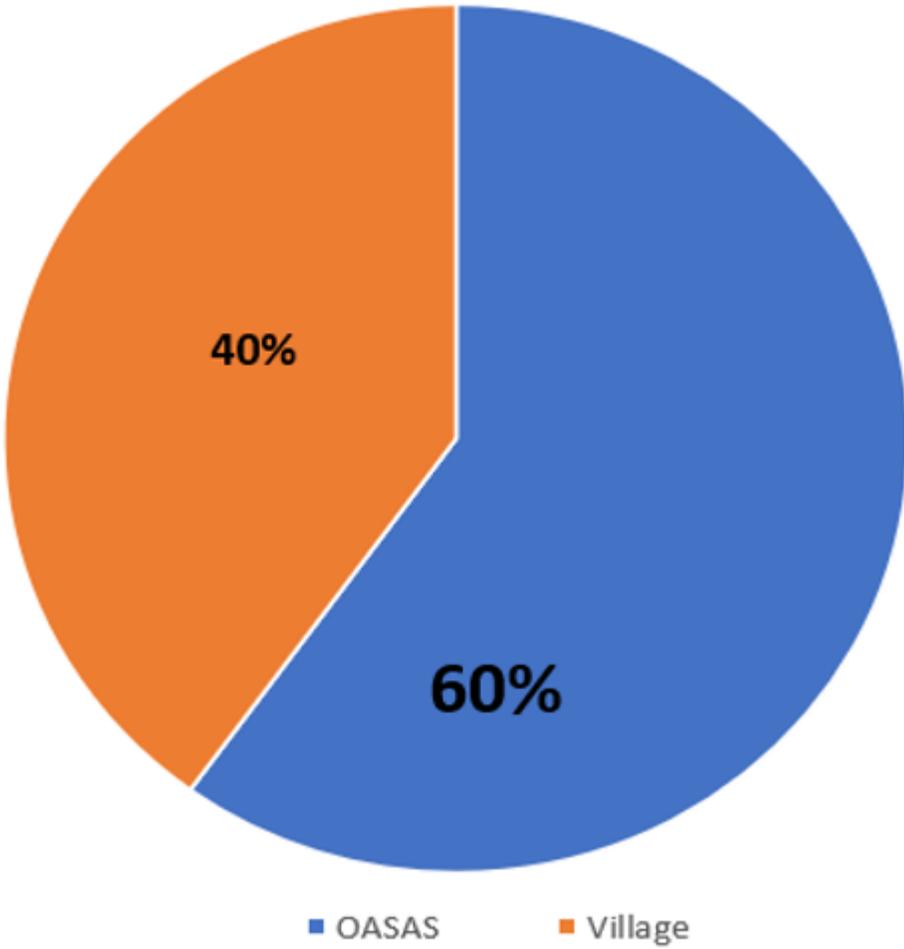
- Food Pantry
- Safe Rides Driver
- Emergency Financial Assistance

OASAS/Village of Hastings on Hudson

- After school drop in program
- Prevention Education

Total Funding

OASAS funds vs. Village funds

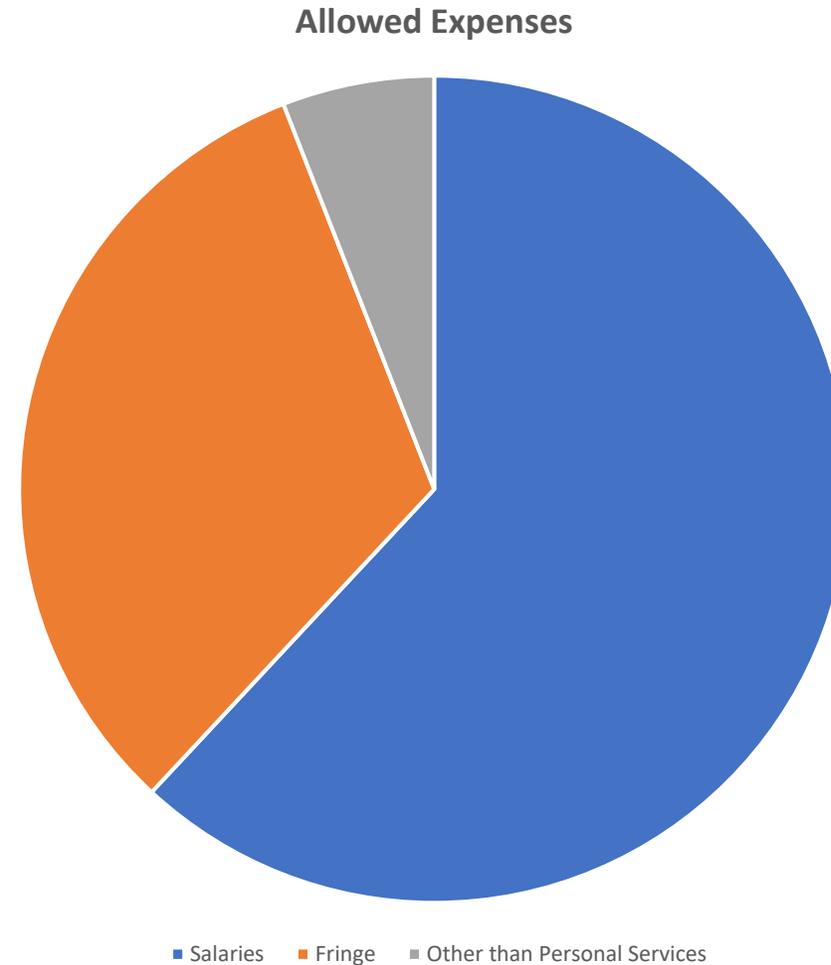


OASAS Budget

NYS Office of Addiction Supports and Services

Currently receive \$163,169 in state aid

Items
Personal Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program staff salaries• Part-time staff
Fringe Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health/Dental Insurance• Social Security & Medicare• MTA Tax• Retirement Benefits• Workers Compensation
Other Than Personal Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Utilities• Insurance• Office & program supplies, equipment• Food for youth





The WAY Drug Free Community Grant

2017 - 2023

Background

- In **September 2016**, the Yonkers Coalition for Youth received a **Drug Free Community Mentor Grant** to support and strengthen the newly formed Hastings Coalition.
- In **September 2018**, a 5-year **Drug Free Community (DFC) grant** was awarded to the Hastings Coalition as The WAY, Working Alliance for Youth.
- **DFC Grant Goals:**
 1. Increase community collaboration
 2. Decrease youth substance use rates

Planning

- The **Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF)** is used to plan, implement, and evaluate prevention practices and programs.
- **Strategic action plans** with timelines and measurable objectives are created each year by analyzing data, and identifying root causes and local conditions that contribute to youth substance misuse.
- **Evidenced based strategies** are planned to produce community level change.
- Short-term, intermediate, and long-term **outcomes are tracked** in a detailed performance measurement plan.
- **Progress reports** are submitted to CDC every 6 months.



Data Collected to Assess Progress

- DFC grants require a student survey every 2 years. In **March 2017, April 2019,** and **December 2021** (delayed due to Covid) the District surveyed 8th ,10th and 12th grade to assess local alcohol and other substance use prevalence rates and related factors.
- A Community Survey was conducted in 2017 and 2019, and is planned for 2023.
- Key leader interviews and focus groups are conducted.
- Social media metrics and attendance at programs are tracked.



Drug Free Communities (DFC) Support Program

Local Problems Require Local Solutions



Membership by Sector: Building Community Capacity

Sectors	First Report		Most Recent Report (Aug. 2022)	National DFC Median (Feb. 2022)
 State or Local, Tribal Governmental Agencies with Expertise in Substance Use	1	↑	4	3
 Parents	1	↑	9	2
 Schools	2	↑	11	4
 Law Enforcement Agency	2	=	2	2
 Civic Volunteer Groups	1	=	1	2
 Religious or Fraternal Organizations	1	=	1	1
 Media	1	=	1	1
 Healthcare Professionals	1	↑	3	3
 Business Community	1	=	1	2
 Other Organizations with Substance Abuse Expertise	1	↑	4	2
 Youth	1	↑	15	5
 Youth-Serving Organizations	1	=	1	2
Total Number of Active Members	14	↑	53	38



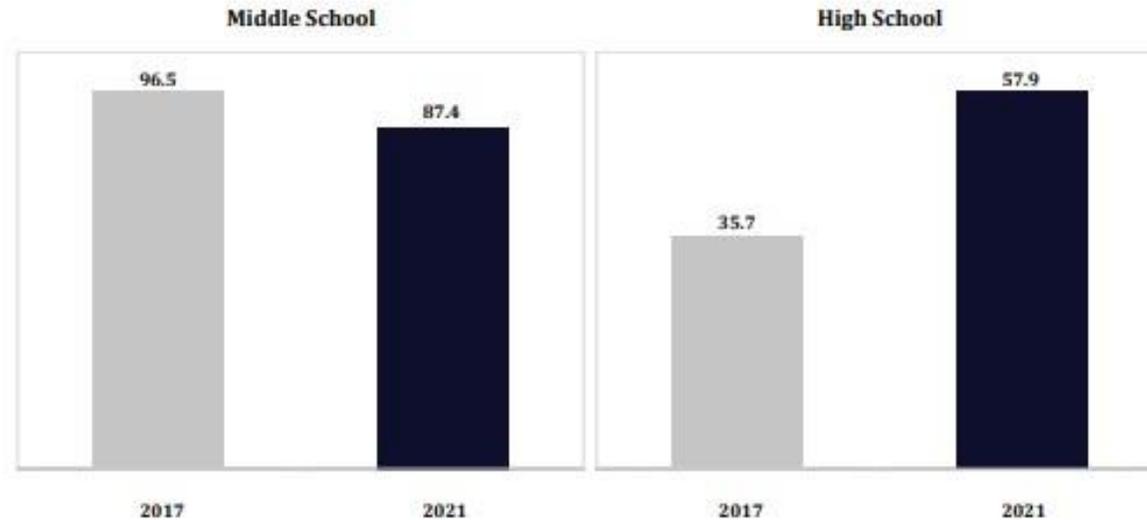
Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program

Local Problems Require Local Solutions



Core Measure Outcomes by Grade Levels First and Most Recent Report: **Alcohol**

Past 30-Day Non-Use



- The percentage change of **Middle School Youth** reporting Past 30 Day Non-Use of Alcohol **Decreased at a rate of -9.4**.
- The percentage change of **High School Youth** reporting Past 30 Day Non-Use of Alcohol **Increased at a rate of 62.2**.
- 2021 data was taken during covid restrictions, and the magnitude of that impact on results is unknown.



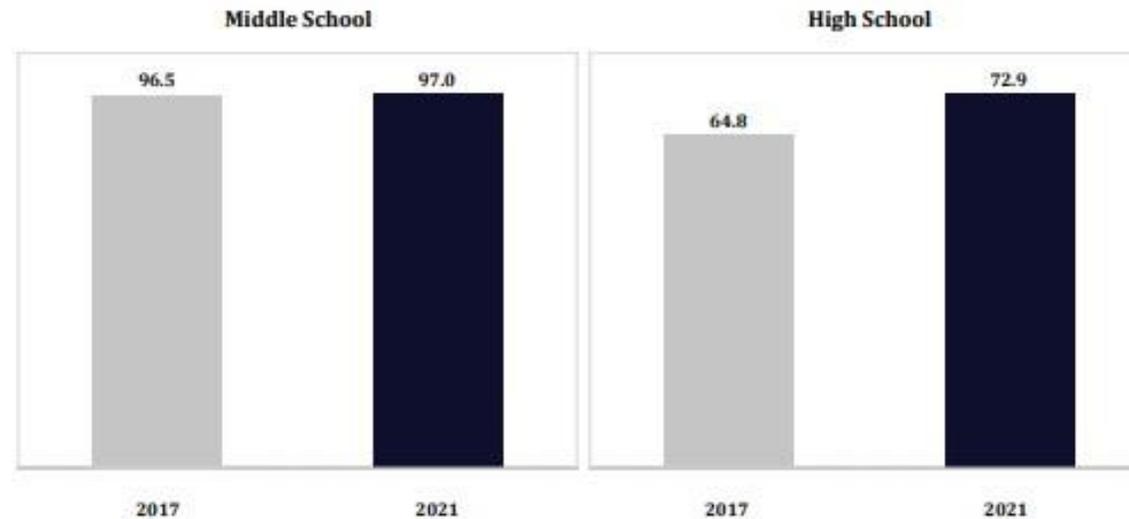
Drug-Free Communities (DFC) Support Program

Local Problems Require Local Solutions



Core Measure Outcomes by Grade Levels First and Most Recent Report: **Marijuana**

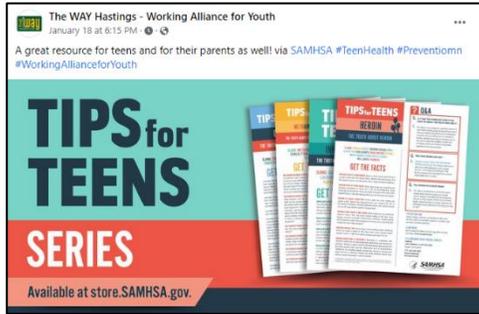
Past 30-Day Non-Use



- The percentage change of **Middle School Youth** reporting Past 30 Day Non-Use of Marijuana **Increased at a rate of 0.5**.
- The percentage change of **High School Youth** reporting Past 30 Day Non-Use of Marijuana **Increased at a rate of 12.5**.
- 2021 data was taken during covid restrictions, and the magnitude of that impact on results is unknown.

Current Prevention Strategies

Raise Awareness and Educate the Community



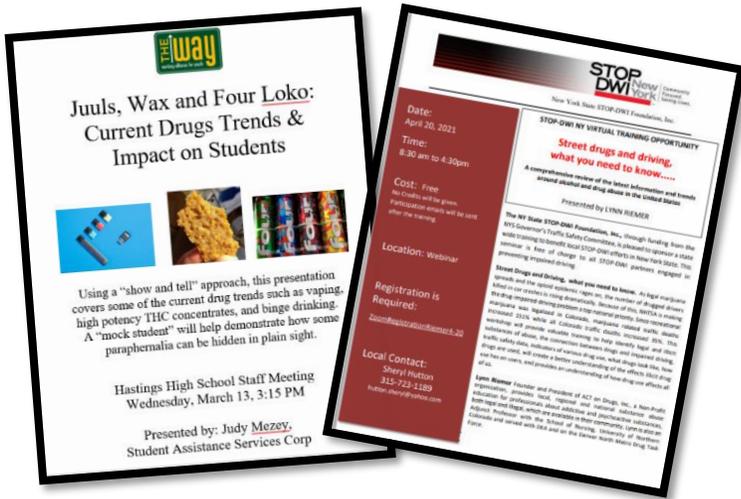
Weekly Social Media Posts



Ad Campaigns



Parent Virtual Speaker Series



School Staff & Police Trainings



Film Screenings & Discussions



Educational Sessions For Parents & Students

Current Prevention Strategies

Reduce Availability & Promote Safe Disposal

Protect Your Kids & Protect Yourself
Know the Westchester County Social Host Law

The Law: It is unlawful for persons 21 years or older to knowingly allow underage drinking in their home or on their property, or to fail to take reasonable corrective action upon becoming aware of such activity.

Purpose: Passed in 2008 to address the problem of adults who allow minors to drink in their homes as opposed to NYS Penal Law which regulates adults who provide alcohol to minors.

Violations: 1st Offense: \$250 fine
2nd Offense: \$500 fine
3rd Offense: \$1,000 fine and/or up to one year in jail

Exemption: consumption of alcohol by your own child in your own home (although permitting a child less than 17 years old, including your own child, to consume too much alcohol, illicit or prescription drugs may constitute child endangerment under NYS Penal Law)

Civil Liability: Adults have a legal responsibility to ensure the safety of underage persons while on their property or under their care, custody and control and may be held liable if:

- or is sexually assaulted on their property;
- a party at their home;
- their property, and is
- or others.

not occur in your

Save A Life

NARCAN TRAINING

Learn to recognize & prevent an overdose

FREE & Open to the public

NOVEMBER 3, 2022

The Hastings Community Center
44 Main Street,
7 pm - 8:30 pm

FREE Narcan Kits Will Be Provided For Participants

Free Pre-registration Here

THE way
Hastings Drug Free Coalition

TRAINER:
Lillian Neuman
Director of Community Outreach
St. Vincent's Hospital,
a division of Saint Joseph's Medical Center

FEATURED SPEAKERS:
Susan Solomone
Executive Director,
Drug Crisis in our Backyard

James D
A young man in recovery shares his personal story

Community Education on Social Host Laws & Narcan Trainings

Greenleaf PHARMACY

THE way
Hastings Drug Free Coalition

Don't Become An Accidental Dealer

Secure Medications and Safely Dispose of Those Unwanted or Expired Immediately After Use (Don't Save Them)

- Bring them to the Hastings Police Department Drop Box 24/7
- Request a free drug deactivation Deterra Bag today from your Greenleaf pharmacist
- Mix meds with a little water & an undesirable substance (coffee grounds, dirt, cat litter), seal the container & dispose of in the garbage - Not Down the Drain!

Safe Disposal Brochures & Medication Disposal Bags distributed at Greenleaf Pharmacy

KEEP KIDS SAFE

Two-thirds of teens who misused pain relievers in the past year say that they got them from family and friends, including their home's medicine cabinets.

(SAMSHA)

FOR QUESTIONS & ADDITIONAL DRUG DISPOSAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

- Hastings W.A.Y. Coalition
www.HastingsCoalition.com
- Drug Enforcement Agency:
www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drugdisposal
- Greenleaf Pharmacy
(914) 478-0004

THE way
Hastings Drug Free Coalition

Proper Disposal of Unused Drugs Saves Lives & the Environment!

DEA NATIONAL TAKEBACK

Saturday, April 30, 2022
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
VFW: 558 Warburton Ave.

Please clean out your medicine cabinet and bring expired or unwanted medication to be properly disposed.

- Bring pills in their original containers.
- Remove your name and prescription numbers, or staff can do it on site.
- We cannot accept ANY liquids, creams or needles.

DON'T BE THE DEALER

Participate in DEA Drug Take Back Days with Police Department

Next takeback day is
APRIL 22nd

Current Prevention Strategies

Provide Support for Healthy Choices & Policies



Promote Healthy Choices with No Smoking or Vaping Policy Enforcement



Hastings Community
Substance Misuse Coalition

VIRTUAL PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, May 7 2020 7:30-8:30pm

The WAY Coalition is offering a new group for Hastings-on-Hudson parents/guardians of 8th -12th graders who want support addressing the topic of alcohol and drug use with their children. The goal of the group is to provide a safe and nonjudgmental space to discuss concerns and provide tools to navigate challenging topics. Discussion will include:

- ⇒ How to talk about alcohol and drugs with your children
- ⇒ "Padj" and house parties
- ⇒ Expectations and limit setting
- ⇒ Speaking with like-minded parents/guardians
- ⇒ Permissive culture of our community

Support Parents & Encourage Dialogue on Teen Substance Use

COVID & Elections & Remote Schooling - OH MY!

There's much to stress about these days, lets take a moment to insert some positivity into our lives.

Join the Hastings Youth Advocate Program and the WAY Coalition as we create a CHAIN OF HOPE. Write an inspiring message on a purple "link" and add it to the chain at the JHCC as a visible sign of support for our community.

Give someone a word of encouragement as we are all in this together!

Meet us in front of the community center on 10/24 from 9am-2pm to get and place a "link"

Additional links will be available at the HHS and FMS from 10/26-10/30.

If you or someone you know is struggling please contact NY Project Hope or Emotional Support Helpline: 1-844-863-9314

Y.A.P. THE way

Collaboration with Y.A.P. on Chain of Hope Project

Current Prevention Strategies

Promote Youth Leadership & Healthy Decisions

Want to make a difference at HHS?
Did Chris Herron's talk inspire you to do something?

JOIN SADD!

- *Meet others making positive choices
- *Learn leadership & advocacy skills
- *Receive community service hours
- *Boost your college application

Learn more at our free pizza lunch!
Tuesday, Feb. 25
12 pm Rm 306



Assist HHS SADD Club

The WAY & The SADD Club
Wish you a Safe & Fun Prom 2021!





Get Dressed Up,
Not Messed Up



Make Memories, Not Regrets.



Don't Drink...Have a Prom Night to Remember!

SADD Club Prom Bags with Alcohol Poisoning Information Card

Hastings High School SADD Club to Kick Off Mental Health Awareness Week

The Students Against Destructive Decisions club is claiming next week as Mental Health Awareness Week at Hastings High School.

Organized by the club's eight members – the week will focus on different themes each day including motivation and willingness to learn, sleep, stress, time management, and social interaction. Students selected the themes through a survey created by SADD.



Youth Leadership Training

SUMMER YOUTH LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

INFLUENCE FOR CHANGE

Master of Ceremonies
Ty Sells
Over 24 years experience in Drug Awareness, Community Service, and Youth Development with Youth to Youth International

GUEST PRESENTERS

Date: Tuesday, July 27th, 2021
Time: 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (Via Zoom)

Dr. Michael (Mykel) Fowlin
Act, performer and psychologist. His mission is to create an atmosphere of worldwide inclusion, not just tolerance, towards all people.

Nigel Wrangham
Westchester County Attorney

These dynamic presenters will talk about cultural humility, and the social change model of leadership, with the goal of empowering youth leaders to have a positive impact in Westchester County and in their individual communities!

Open to all High School Students!
Register Here!



THE WAY
working always for youth

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY EASTERN STATES YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

July 25-28, 2019,
Bryant University, Smithfield, Rhode Island

Do you want to build your leadership skills & create positive change?

This is a one-of-a-kind conference that will allow you to:

- meet teens making healthy choices from all over the county,
- develop skills to make positive choices,
- attend interactive and informative workshops,
- hear nationally known speakers,
- develop action plans to create change in your own school and community,
- learn vital leadership skills you can use for a lifetime, and most importantly, HAVE FUN!

No cost and transportation is included by bus with other Westchester teens. Scholarships are limited, so please contact Linda Fosina, LFosina@hastingsgov.org for more information and for an application.

Budget Summary

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5 (projected)
Personnel	11,250	11,250	11,250	11,250	11,250
Fringe		3,008	7,770	8,234	8,400
Travel	11,100	3,095	1,029	1,435	7,000
Supplies	3,307	6,766	12,552	2,908	3,000
Contractual	40,789	62,390	61,635	68,809	64,000
Other	4,021	22,847	7,674	19,804	7,000
Total	\$70,467	\$109,356	\$101,910	\$112,440	\$100,650

Federal grant funds of \$125,000 are awarded each year.