

# Parent's Pledge - TO PREVENT TEEN DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

## Who We Are...

The Youth Addiction and Suicide Prevention Coalition is a group of your friends and neighbors who have come together to address the problems related to suicide and drug and alcohol abuse. The Coalition is working to change the environment that encourages risky alcohol and drug use in our community. Our goal is to bring our community together to make Marin a safe place for everyone, especially our youth.

## About the Pledge...

The Parent & Community Pledge creates change in the way people think about drinking and drug use. Keeping this Pledge will reduce youth access to alcohol and other drugs in Marin homes. Your participation will reduce drinking and its impact on teen health and safety in your community.

This Pledge is linked to broader strategies, which include Marin's Social Host Ordinances adopted in 2008. The ordinances hold the adult host(s) of teen parties accountable for nuisance behavior resulting from underage drinking parties occurring on their property with a fine of up to \$1,000.

Please show your commitment by checking each statement of the pledge and signing your name. Share this pledge with your friends and neighbors. Discuss it with your family.

## Tips for Hosting & Supervising Events:

- Make sure alcohol is not accessible to teens:
  - ✓ Secure liquor and medicine cabinets from easy access in your home.
  - ✓ Be a visible presence at any teen party you host.
  - ✓ Model responsible behavior by refraining from alcohol and other drug use while hosting a party.
- Encourage "By Invitation Only" parties.
- Tell guests who leave the party that they may not return. No "in and out" privileges.
- Call the parents of any youth who appears to be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- Help anyone who is under the influence to get home safely.
- Call the police if the party gets out of control.
- Tell your teens you signed this Pledge and what it means.
- Designate a responsible adult to supervise your teen when you are out of town or unavailable.
- When your teen is invited to a party, contact the adult in charge to verify:
  - ✓ The location and hours of the party.
  - ✓ That there will be adult supervision.
  - ✓ That no alcohol or other drugs will be served or allowed.
- When your teen gets home from a party, check in with him/her.

## By Signing this Pledge I agree that:

- I will not serve minors, nor will I allow youth under the legal drinking age to consume alcohol or to use other drugs in my home or on my property.
- When hosting a youth party, I will be home, visible and aware.
- I will not allow teen parties or gatherings in my home when I am not there.
- I will share the information in this pledge with my child/children.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_