

DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS, INC.

For nearly 20 years, the Towns of Newton and Kingston have supported the work of Drugs are Dangerous, Inc. (D.A.D., Inc.) in bringing “Natural High” experiences to the children, youth and families of our communities. The following are some of the examples of our efforts to help children, youth and families address some of life’s challenges.

The annual family skating parties held at Skateland for Memorial, Bakie and the Middle School students continue to attract whole families and are well attended. D.A.D.’s Natural High Day (always held on Father’s Day at YMCA Camp Lincoln) has become an institution. Families from both Newton and Kingston celebrate the positive aspects of coming together and experiencing a drug free event. In addition to the free barbeque lunch, interactive games and activities for all age groups, the world’s largest whip cream fight remains the highlight of the day’s events.

D.A.D. continues to emphasize substance abuse prevention programs to help families address the scourge of drugs, alcohol and its negative impact on our communities. Project Safeguard and Project Stand by Me for all 5th and 7th grade students and their parents/guardians is well attended. (These programs are subsidized through the school budget.)

Drugs Are Dangerous, Inc. is a registered NH non-profit corporation with the state of N.H. We are a small dedicated group of parents and individuals from Newton and Kingston trying to help children, youth and families “be the best they can be”. The continued support of the voters of Newton in the amount of \$2,000 is very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristy A. Lacroix
President

FAMILY MEDIATION & JUVENILE SERVICES

2007 was an exciting year of growth for our agency. We provided services to 1440 youth and parents for the towns of Atkinson, Danville, Hampstead, Kingston, Newton, Plaistow and Salem, NH. Please visit us at www.fmjs.org to learn more about the programs and services we have to offer, at low or no cost, to residents and their families in need of support.

Besides funding received from the above towns, monies were also received from Heritage United Way, the Rockingham County Incentive Funds, the State of NH Governor’s Commission on Substance Abuse via the Sad Café, the Atkinson Women’s Civic Club, and private donations. In order to sustain our growth and remain viable as a non-profit agency in these hard times, our Treasurer, Dale Childs, worked diligently to bring us the opportunity to get involved with fundraising events at Rockingham Park. Our Board of Directors actively participated in these events to make them a success. We also sponsored 2 teen dances during the year at Holy Angels Church in cooperation with the Knights of Columbus.

2007 achievements included:

- ◆ The number of youth and parents attending our substance abuse awareness course, known as our Challenge course, increased 135% over 2006. The number of diversion courses we held during the year increased by 25 % overall, while the number of Challenge courses ran increased by 100%. We ran 5 Stop Shoplifting programs in 2007, as opposed to 4 in 2006. Anger Management (TLC) remained steady at 4 courses during the year.
- ◆ Tobacco Education referrals to the agency increased by 300%; Stop Shoplifting referrals increased by 10%. The number of people participating in mediation increased by 11%. The number of citizens attending our workshops increased by 15% since 2006.
- ◆ Youth placed at community service sites - 1115 hours of service returned to the community;
- ◆ \$1909.40 in monetary restitution was returned to the victims;
- ◆ Peer Mediation workshops were held at Sanborn Regional Middle School and at the Hampstead Hospital for the Hampstead Middle School children;
- ◆ Our Challenge & TLC classes were held at the Hampstead Middle School, which gave us room for all the youth and their parents, in separate class rooms.
- ◆ Over 90 volunteers & their families have been invited to attend our 'Annual Gathering' – our volunteer appreciation night.

Family Mediation & Juvenile Services is dedicated to serving area youth and families. We would again like to thank the townspeople, judges, police departments, schools, donors, volunteers (mediators, community service supervisors, etc.) and the staff, who make it all possible.

Family Mediation & Juvenile Services Board of Directors:

Debra DeSimone, *Atkinson*

Rose Cavalear, *Atkinson*

Dick Gerrish, *Kingston*

Laura Bertogli, *Newton*

Dale Childs, *Hampstead*

Roclyn Porter, *Hampstead*

Marta Modigliani, *Danville*

Kathy Marino, *Newton*

Barbara Tavitian, *Plaistow*

Dan Poliquin, *Plaistow*

Pat Macomber, *At Large*