

Underage drinking isn't just about drinking and driving...

Youth who drink alcohol are more likely to experience

- School problems.
- Social problems.
- Legal problems.
- Physical problems.
- Unwanted, unplanned, and unprotected sexual activity.
- Disruption of normal growth and sexual development.
- Physical and sexual assault.
- Higher risk for suicide and homicide.
- Alcohol-related car crashes and other unintentional injuries, such as burns, falls, and drowning.
- Memory problems.
- Abuse of other drugs.
- Changes in brain development that may have life-long effects.
- Death from alcohol poisoning.



Alcohol and Youth
Don't Mix!

“Together We Can” is funded by the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and is made up of the following three Youth Service Bureaus and their Prevention Councils:

Youth and Family Services of Haddam-Killingworth, Inc.

P.O. Box 432
91 Little City Road
Higganum, CT 06441
Phone: (860) 345-7498
www.hkyfs.org
Executive Director: Cheryl Chandler

Tri-Town Youth Services, Inc.

P.O. Box 897
56 High Street
Deep River, CT 06417
Phone: (860) 526-3600
www.tritownys.org
Executive Director: Gail Onofrio

East Haddam Youth and Family Services

P.O. Box 572
387 East Haddam-Moodus Road
Moodus, CT 06469
Phone: (860) 873-3296
www.ehyfs.org
Executive Director: Toni McCabe

Party Line

For Parents who want to join the effort to prevent underage drinking.



Parents and guardians who join Party Line are pledging their homes will be places where youth will not have access to alcohol or other drugs, and that a responsible adult will properly supervise all youth gatherings.

Sponsored by



Did you know that in a recent Search Institute Survey... an average 49% of youth, grades 7-12, in the six "Together We Can" communities, reported attending one or more parties in the last year where same-age kids were drinking?



Not All Parents Have The Same House Rules!

Party Line helps promote consistent guidelines for parents and youth

Add your name to the list of involved parents by completing the enclosed form and returning it to your local Youth Service Bureau.

TIP LINE

For parents/ and youth to report underage drinking, drug use, and unsupervised parties...

ANONYMOUSLY

873-5013 (East Haddam)
663-1765 (Haddam-Killingworth)

Parties Your Kids Are Giving...

1. **Expect** and encourage calls from parents of teens confirming the party time and place.
2. **Inform** parents and teens that there will be no alcohol or drugs permitted in your home or on your property.
3. **Plan** on being home during the entire party and exercise proper supervision.
4. **Inform** teens that leaving and then returning to the party will not be permitted.
5. **Call** parents of teens who arrive at the party under the influence.
6. **Know who is invited.** Enforce a NO CRASHING policy!

Parties Your Kids Are Going To...

1. **Call** the parents of the party giver to:
 - Verify the occasion.
 - Make sure a parent will be home.
 - Be sure that alcohol and drugs will not be permitted.
2. **Agree** upon a specific time your child will return home before your child leaves for the party.
3. **Know** how your teen will get to and from the party, and if needed, be available to provide transportation.
4. **Tell** your kids Never to ride home with a driver (including an impaired adult) who has been drinking or is under the influence of drugs. Instruct them to call you for a ride if needed.
5. **Be awake**, or be sure to have them wake you when they arrive home.
6. **Avoid** spontaneous "sleepovers" when possible.

Guidelines For Parents

- Inform your child that you have joined Party Line and discuss it with them.
- Assure your child that he/she can telephone you to be picked up whenever needed.
- Get to know your child's friends and their parents.
- Be aware that many parties, sleepovers and other activities in your community are being held without supervision and that alcohol and drugs are frequently present.
- Listen to your child.
- Communicate with other parents.
- Stay involved with your child.
- Be reasonable, consistent and specific in your rules.
- Actively support and enforce a clear, consistent message for all youth that there will be NO USE of alcohol, tobacco, or any other drugs.
- Welcome a phone call from other parents supporting your combined commitment.

Remember: Research points to parental involvement as being the single most important factor in an adolescent's relationship to alcohol and other drugs.



Chester | Deep River | East Haddam | Essex | Haddam | Killingworth

A PARENT'S PLEDGE

1. I will actively supervise all gatherings of youth in our home or on our property, or ask another responsible adult for help to do so.
2. I will not allow the possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, or any other drugs by youth in our home or on our property.
3. I will set expectations for my children by knowing where they are going, whom they are with, what they are doing, and when they are to return home.
4. I will discuss this pledge with my children.

Name: _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____

(work) _____ **(cell)** _____

EMAIL _____

(For information only; email will not be shared with other parents)

Children:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Grade: _____

Signature: _____

Print, sign and send completed copy to:

**East Haddam Youth & Family Services
P.O. Box 572
Moodus, CT 06469**