

## Melrose Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

### April 2009 Report

#### Coalition members, Coordinator, and Administrator:

- Organized/attended Coalition's monthly meeting and Sustainability workshop (April 3<sup>rd</sup>): 27 attendees
- FY'09 Drug-Free Communities Grant
  - Semi-annual COMET online report finalized (due May 11<sup>th</sup>)
  - Continuous billing and invoice collection done
- FY'09 City grant
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  - Finalized expenditures with Planning Committee and Action Team Point People
- Health Director and Coordinator wrote Mass in Motion obesity prevention \$60,000 grant for Melrose (due April 21<sup>st</sup>)
- Coalition's Sustainability Plan updated to reflect April 3<sup>rd</sup>'s sustainability workshop changes
- Planning Committee met to discuss FY'10 grant funding (April 24<sup>th</sup>)
- Coordinator participated in Northeast Center for Healthy Communities Networking Luncheon on Alcohol Compliance Checks (April 9<sup>th</sup>)
- Coordinator participated in Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center audio conference on alcohol's effect on Adolescent Brain (April 23<sup>rd</sup>)
- Citizens Drug Recognition Academy
  - 5 Coalition volunteers and Administrator organized and ran this Spring '09 Academy
  - April 9<sup>th</sup> Teen Drug Abuse: Can You Read the Signs?—12 attendees
  - April 16<sup>th</sup> Generation Rx: Danger in our Medicine Cabinet—14 attendees
  - April 30<sup>th</sup> Marijuana: Weeding Out the Facts—11 attendees
  - Coming up....May 7<sup>th</sup> Turning off the Tap: Underage Drinking Prevention
  - Thank you to Council on Aging and the Milano Senior Center for in-kind support!
- Ongoing updating/stocking of resources in office and throughout community
  - Library-FACE campaign bookmarks
- Tips for Parents disseminated in community
  - Charter School-Chris C
  - St. Mary's-Donna V
- Newspaper Submissions (Melrose Free Press = 20,700 homes/businesses weekly, Melrose Weekly News = 9,000 homes/businesses weekly)
  - Talking Tips for Parents (follow-up from Social Issues teen focus group)—April 17<sup>th</sup>—both papers

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- Melrose Draws the Line—April 24<sup>th</sup>—Melrose Weekly News
- Alcohol Awareness Month—Alcohol Screening.org “How Much is Too Much” c/o Join Together—April 17<sup>th</sup>—both papers
- CDRA ads
- “Alcohol and Drug rules amended for MHS Student Athletes”—April 3<sup>rd</sup>—Melrose Free Press, April 17<sup>th</sup>—Melrose Weekly News
- School Nurse Notes —“The Dangers of Underage Drinking”—April 10<sup>th</sup>—Melrose Weekly News
- “Alcohol Compliance Checks coming”—April 10<sup>th</sup>—Melrose Weekly News
- Pre Prom Forum coverage—April 17<sup>th</sup>—Melrose Weekly News
- Gerry Leone/Joe Casey letter re: Prom Safety—April 24<sup>th</sup>—both papers
- IT developments
  - On/off technical difficulties and time constraints continue to hinder updates of city webpage and e-newsletter
  - Coordinator now updates and sends when can versus bi-weekly
- Sports Organization Action Team
  - Coalition banner hung at Conant Park for Melrose National Little League season.
  - Water bottle and literature distributed to all Majors of Melrose National Little League.
  - Contact made with leader of Babe Ruth baseball league.
- Police Action Team
  - EOPSS underage drinking enforcement grant
    - Planning for upcoming alcohol compliance checks
    - “Holidays” to have extra party/surveillance patrols were identified (Memorial Day, End of School).
    - Also moving forward with extra patrols in Spring due to increase in underage drinking activity at public locations
  - 665-TIPS Tip Line
    - Discussions around implementation of log spreadsheet continue
    - Promotions continue
- School Action Team
  - School Committee Policy Chair and Athletic Director have reviewing/improving school district policies, specifically alcohol, tobacco, and other drug sections, as well as MIAA/MHS Athletic Policy addendums
  - Student Assistance Team
    - Up and running...referrals and meetings happening
  - Project Northland Class Action
    - Spring implementation to all 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> graders
    - Observation by Northeast Center in process of being set up for May
- Youth Action Team

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- Implementation of Spring initiatives continues
  - Drunk Driving Prevention—All
    - Memorial Day and Prom materials being created.
  - Environmental Scans—All
    - Materials ready. Youth volunteers being recruited.
    - Meeting May 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - Media Literacy-Charlie + middle school youth
    - Lessons at Roosevelt and Hoover going well!!
  - Marijuana Prevention Campaign-Joe
    - “Are you part of the 75?”
    - Finalizing law-related education for youth/community
    - MMTV show with Chief Lyle to happen in May
  - Healthy Alternatives-Khart
    - Low high school attendance at Wii Tournament April 17<sup>th</sup> at Common Ground
    - Citywide Scavenger Hunt in collaboration with Rec Dept planned for May 2<sup>nd</sup>—15 youth attended
  - Melrose Draws the Line-Maddie
    - [www.melrosedrawstheline.org](http://www.melrosedrawstheline.org)
    - Banner over Main St, kiosk banner, event banner, wallet cards, big posters, smaller posters, press release, street signs, stickers, caution tape
    - Kickoff date ~ April 27th
    - Many youth and Coalition members helped hang materials
    - Youth to start posting stories online
- *Guiding Good Choices* Action Team
  - Four Spring workshops complete—95 families have now completed!
  - Lessons Learned meeting with Facilitators (April 21<sup>st</sup>)
  - Public thank you to Trinity Church piece in works
  - Coalition Coordinator and GGC Coordinator met (April 29<sup>th</sup>)
  - Action Team met to revise Policy and Procedure manual to reflect sustainability initiatives (May 5<sup>th</sup>).
- Policy Action Team
  - Local policy
    - Coordinator met with City Solicitor and Police Chief to finalizing public marijuana consumption ordinance to be presented to Board of Alderman on May 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - State policy
    - Following certain ATOD pending legislature (i.e. alcohol taxes, Youth Alcohol Bill, and Ignition Interlock Bill). Working to keep Coalition informed.