

## October 2008 Report

### Coalition members, Coordinator, and Administrator:

- Organized/attended Coalition's monthly meeting (October 10th) (17 attendees)
  - FY'09 Membership Agreements in process of being filled out by members and entered into Coalition database
  - Soliciting Point People for Action Teams
- State and federal FY'09 grants
  - Continuous billing and invoice collection done for state and federal grants
  - State FY'09 budget
    - Lost 1/2 of state earmark grant due to state budget cuts
    - Health Director, Administrator, and Coordinator met with Mayor and learned the City will kick in the \$37,500 difference!
    - Planning Committee met to discuss funding (October 21<sup>st</sup>)
    - State's Quarterly MIS spreadsheet submitted
  - DFC federal grant
    - Closed out FY'08 and began FY'09 for
    - Federal PS272 fiscal report filed
- Ongoing updating/stocking of resources in office and throughout community
- Coordinator participated in Northeast Center for Healthy Communities strategic planning conference call (October 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Administrator attended Community Coalition meeting and disseminated information re: Social Host and Tip Line to group (October 14<sup>th</sup>)
- Fall Focus Group Training
  - ~10 Coalition members attended raining by local expert (Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>)
  - Coalition's 3 Teen Leaders will run 2 discussion groups in November
    - Prescription drug abuse-3 groups (1 middle school, 2 high school)
    - Healthy alternatives through Health/Wellness classes
  - Guidelines finalized
- Flu Clinic
  - Administered survey "If we were to offer a 'Take Back your Unused or Expired Medications' day would you attend?" Of the 103 senior citizens surveyed, approximately 63% said yes and 36% said no. (October 21<sup>st</sup>)
  - 5 volunteers handed out 380 baggies with information on how to store and dispose of your pain medications, Tip Line info, promo materials, and healthy aging. (October 21<sup>st</sup>)
  - 150 "how to store and dispose your pain medications" disseminated (October 28<sup>th</sup>)

## Melrose Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

- Newspaper Submissions(Melrose Free Press = 20,700 homes/businesses weekly, Melrose Weekly News = 9,000 homes/businesses weekly)
  - November 4<sup>th</sup> election
    - Question 2: Marijuana Decriminalization Info Sheet
    - Alcohol ballot initiatives articles
      - Before and after MMTV show sponsored by League of Women Voters
    - Governor's budget cuts-state earmark down ½
    - Mayor Dolan and City plan to fund monies lost
    - Tip Line follow-up article submitted
- Outreach to sports organizations/booster clubs
  - Continued phone calls and outreach
  - Folder for outreach phone call or in-person visit sent out
- 4 Melrose Police Officers and Coalition Coordinator attended ABCC/MADD's Alcohol Compliance Check training (October 22<sup>nd</sup>)
- Tobacco Compliance Checks
  - Coordinator and Girls Inc of Lynn (Advisor and 2 youth) conducted checks on October 6th
- Liquor Licensing
  - Mayor's ad-hoc Advisory Committee met October 1st
  - League of Women Voters hosted a televised panel (City Solicitor, Police Chief Lyle, and Coalition Coordinator) on October 21<sup>st</sup> to answer resident questions about the upcoming ballot initiatives (MMTV reached 17,250 homes/businesses)
- Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment at Melrose-Wakefield Hospital
  - Met with IRB on October 30<sup>th</sup>
  - The pilot study will run from December 31 - March 31, 2009
- IT developments
  - Webpage updated (monthly hits ~200)
  - e-Newsletter continues to be sent out to Coalition bi-weekly (92 subscribers)
- Police Action Team
  - Police Chief, Health Director, and Coordinator working on grant application for \$5,000 grant to conduct underage alcohol compliance checks, party patrols, and surveillance patrols—would run Dec 08-May 09.
  - 665-TIPS Tip Line
    - Promotion continues
      - Tip Line wallet cards and flyers disseminated (2500 wallet cards, 500 flyers)
      - Since the beginning of this promotion, there have been many tips, 4 of which were verified and are currently being investigated
      - Community liaisons continue to disseminate wallet cards and flyers at community meetings (VFW,

## Melrose Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

Chamber of Commerce, Interfaith Clergy, Milano Senior Center, Rotary Club, Citywide PTO, and Lions Club)

- Project Northland
  - Coordinator met with School Committee member and Superintendent to discuss '06-'08 Class Action data (October 15<sup>th</sup>)
  - Coordinator met with Superintendent, High School Principal, Middle School Principal, and Health/Wellness Director to discuss data, training for all teachers, and consistent implementation (October 23<sup>rd</sup>)
- Youth Action Team
  - 3 YAT teen leader positions
    - Finished interviews
    - After consulting with Planning Committee, Advisor and Coordinator hired 2 MHS seniors and 1 junior
  - Met October 15<sup>th</sup> and October 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss upcoming initiatives, short and long term goals, and to plan for focus groups.
  - Coordinator met with Advisor (October 28<sup>th</sup>) Advisor and teen leaders performed first energizer at October 10<sup>th</sup> Coalition meeting on instant messaging methods
  - Discussions around creating a My Space page and trying to get Middle School youth involved with the YAT began
  - Facebook page created for Melrose Youth Action Team
    - Recruitment started
  - Teen-to-teen discussion groups on prescription drug abuse set up through Tremont Street Y for Nov 5, 10, and 12
    - Flyers created and disseminated
    - Guidelines finalized and teen leaders trained in focus groups by Advisor
- *Guiding Good Choices* Action Team
  - 4 workshop series underway at City Hall!
  - ~45 parents are enrolled
- Healthy Alternatives
  - Met on October 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - This group is on hold until our teen-to-teen discussion groups through the Youth Action Team are conducted.