

Link Together's Prevention Newsletter



{Spring Edition}

Link Together is Wheeling Township's youth drug and alcohol prevention coalition. Evidence-based prevention services are provided to Buffalo Grove, John Hersey, Prospect, Rolling Meadows and Wheeling High Schools and Cooper, Holmes, London, MacArthur, River Trails, South and Thomas Middle Schools. The coalition members represent all sectors of the community. Link Together is funded by the federal **Drug Free Communities Grant**, sponsored by the Office of National Drug Control and Policy (ONDCP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Link Together was recognized as Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America's (CADCA) 2020 Coalition of the Year.



Throughout the newsletter, there are interactive links, they are bold and underlined.

Spring Community Prevention Initiatives

— National Prescription Drug Take Back Day —

April 24th: National Prescription **Drug Take Back Day**, sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Diversion Control Division. For local drug take back locations, [click here](#).



— Deterra Drug Deactivation System —

The **Deterra Drug Deactivation System** is for safe at home medication deactivation and disposal. If you are interested in receiving a free Deterra pouch for yourself or your organization, email kzerfass@omniyouth.org or call 847-942-1750.



— Your Actions Matter —

Your Actions Matter is a collaborative effort between Wheeling Township businesses, police departments and community members. This initiative focuses on changing adult attitudes about providing alcohol to minors. Look for these tags this spring!



— National Prevention Week —

National Prevention Week is May 10th - 14th. Each year around this observance, communities and organizations across the country come together to raise awareness about the importance of substance use prevention and positive mental health.

Monday: Preventing Prescription Drug and Opioid Misuse

Tuesday: Preventing Underage Drinking and Alcohol Misuse

Wednesday: Preventing Illicit Drug Use and Youth Marijuana Use

Thursday: Preventing Youth Tobacco Use (E-Cigarettes and Vaping)

Friday: Preventing Suicide



— Link Together Executive Board —

Link Together would like to recognize and thank our dynamic 2020-2021 Executive Board:

Marni Johnson, Chair

Mark Pufundt, Vice Chair

Lisa Schaps, Secretary

Don Angelaccio, Business Manager

Gene Haring, Community Relations Manager



[Link Together](#)

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linktogethercoalition.org

Contact us directly at: linktogethercoalition@gmail.com

— Social Host Ordinances —

Social hosting occurs when adults knowingly allow substance consumption by minors, such as alcohol and marijuana. Check with your village for local ordinances and fines. If you choose to **host a party** for your teen and their friends remember you are ultimately responsible for the actions that occur on your property. **Talk** early and often with your teen about not using drugs and alcohol, you are your child's biggest influence!

Teens & Screens:

The Impact of Popular TV

Psychologist, Dr. Aaron Weiner, presented how popular, trending shows might impact your child's choices and provided concrete steps parents can take to help their children navigate what they see on TV and stick to their values.

The recording is available for viewing here: <https://youtu.be/NFBKxWy85kA>.

— Resources —

- Link Together's Wheeling Township Area **[Resource Guide related to COVID-19](#)**
- OMNI Youth Services' **[Resource Guide](#)**
- Link Together's **[Marijuana Parent Toolkit](#)**
- SAMHSA's Guide on **[Reducing Vaping Among Youth and Young Adults](#)**
- **[National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)** 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

Dr. B's Medical Corner

Dr. Brottman, Board Certified Pediatrician

How to safely take your prescription medications:

- The prescription is written for you and only you
- Follow the directions of taking the prescription medication
- Safely store your prescription medication away from children, high up or in a locked cabinet
- Do not take prescription medications not prescribed to you
- Do not share your prescription medication with others
- Any unused or unneeded prescription medication should be disposed of properly, such as **[Drug Take Back Day](#)**
- Protect the environment by disposing medications through **[local drug take back programs](#)**, do not throw away in the garbage or flush down the toilet or sink