

Our mission is to meet the need for comprehensive alcohol and drug abuse awareness planning and programming to create community-level change in Manalapan Township and Englishtown Borough.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Manalapan-Englishtown Community Alliance

Hosts Annual Open House including a Presentation on

“Substance Use and Youth: Trends and Intervention”

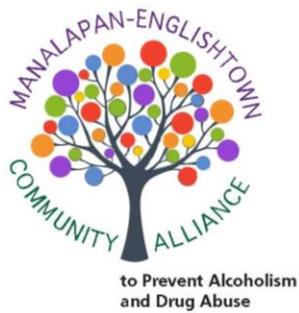
Manalapan, NJ (January 2, 2019) – Local, state and national newspapers post daily, stories of drug arrests and responses to overdoses – with both successful and unsuccessful efforts of saving a person. Additionally there are news stories of State and National efforts to address the over-prescribing of pain medicine. The news seems endless and the ability for any one person to make a difference seems beyond reach. The Manalapan-Englishtown Community Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (“Alliance”) doesn’t want to give into stagnation on this issue. Instead, the Alliance wants to mobilize a community based effort to fight this scourge and empower the members of the community to be pre-emptive on this issue and employ strategies and efforts to prevent alcohol and drug abuse.

To that end the Alliance will be hosting an Open House program on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at the Manalapan High School. The program will start with refreshments being served at 6:30 pm with the program following at 7:15 pm. All members of the residential and business communities of Manalapan Township and Englishtown Borough are invited and encouraged to attend. Parents who want to bring their teenage children are also encouraged to attend to help broach or broaden their in home conversations on drugs and alcohol. The program will feature a presentation by Crystal Wytenus, Director of Care Management for Bergen’s Promise – a designated care management organization in Bergen County working with youth with serious behavioral health challenges, substance abuse issues and developmental disabilities. Ms. Wytenus will talk about current trends of drug use by youth and various engagement strategies- both in the home and outside of the home. The presentation will cover substances including marijuana, abuse of prescription medications and vaping.



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The program will further introduce participants to the Alliance and its members. Alliance leaders will present information on current trends and actual levels of drug activity in our communities. The presentation will also include sharing of strategies to engage children and youth early in life in productive conversations and early intervention actions persons can take in their homes or businesses on how to identify early signs of abuse and how to get help. There is no cost to attend – and no obligation to do anything but learn. If, however, you are inspired to want to be a part of the effort to reduce drugs and alcohol abuse in the community, then the Alliance would be happy to have you join the team.

The Manalapan High School is at 20 Church Lane, Manalapan, NJ.

Attendees will leave with a better understanding of the presence of drugs in our neighborhoods, its consequences and our community's fight to prevent more lives from being damaged or lost due to these drugs.

For more information, please feel free to call David Richardson, Health Officer, at (732) 446-8345 or health@mtnj.org.

The Manalapan-Englishtown Community Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse exists as a catalyst within our community to raise public awareness about alcohol and substance abuse issues. The Alliance is part of a statewide effort aimed at the prevention of alcohol and drug abuse. Alliance funding is primarily provided by the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse through Drug Enforcement Demand Reduction (D.E.D.R.) Funds. Additional funding is provided by Manalapan Township, donations and fundraisers. The Alliance is a volunteer board comprised of community residents and representatives. The Alliance meets monthly, routinely on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Manalapan Senior Center. For more information about the Alliance please contact David Richardson as noted above.

