

NEW DAY NEWS



351 NORTH STATE ROAD 7, SUITE 200, PLANTATION, FLORIDA 33317 (954) 327-4060

WWW.STARTINGPLACE.ORG

Alcohol & Drug Availability

- Twenty-seven percent of public school students ages 12 to 17 say that their school is both gang- and drug-infected (drugs are used, kept or sold on school grounds)
- Compared to teens attending gang- and drug-free schools, teens who attend schools infected with both gangs and drugs are:
 - Five times likelier to use marijuana;
 - Three times likelier to drink;
 - Twelve times likelier to smoke;
 - Three times likelier to be able to get marijuana within an hour or less and five times likelier to get it within a day or less; and
 - Nearly five times likelier to have a friend/ classmate who uses illegal drugs like acid, ecstasy, methamphetamine, cocaine or heroin.
- One in three middle schoolers say that drugs are used, kept or sold at their school, a 39 percent increase since last year (32 percent in 2010 vs. 23 percent in 2009).
- 39 percent of 12- and 13-year olds in drug-infected schools can get alcohol in a day or less, and 24 percent can get marijuana in a day or less.
- Compared to 12- and 13-year olds in drug-free schools, those in drug-infected schools are:
 - Thirty-three times likelier to have tried tobacco;
 - Seven times likelier to have a friend or classmate who uses illegal drugs like acid, ecstasy, methamphetamine, cocaine or heroin;
 - Five times likelier to know a friend or classmate who abuses prescription drugs; and
 - Almost three times likelier to have tried alcohol.
- In the 2001 CASA survey, 62 percent of public school students and 79 percent of private and religious school students said they attended drug-free schools; in this year's survey, 43 percent of public school students and 78 percent of private school students say they attended drug-free schools, widening the drug-free-school gap from 17 points to 35 points.

-from the National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse XV: Teens and Parents, the 15th annual back-to-school survey conducted by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University.



Joel Kaufman, Ph.D.
CEO

You Don't Have to be Perfect to be a Perfect Parent

It would be very easy for me to discuss in each newsletter about the great gift and great challenge that parenting is. Parents play an extremely important role in a child's life and in a child's development. The CASA study cited on page one also found that teens in families with weak family ties are:

- Four times likelier to try tobacco;
- Four times likelier to try marijuana;
- Almost three times likelier to drink;
- Twice as likely to have a friend/classmate who abuses prescription drugs; and
- Twice as likely to have a friend/classmate who uses illegal drugs such as acid, ecstasy, methamphetamine, cocaine or heroin.

The study emphasizes how important it is for parents to forge close family ties with their children and really know their children's friends. "In today's world a parent has no greater tool to help keep their child drug free than communication."

Communication skills don't necessarily require special skills training, just a genuine and demonstrated interest in talking with your child.

Over 80% of The Starting Place's treatment services are in-home based. We believe that if a young person is going to have a greater chance at recovery and be successful, then we need to work with the family as well.

Our Annual Breakfast Fundraiser

On Tuesday October 5, 2010 from 8AM till 10AM The Starting Place's Annual Breakfast Fundraiser will take place at the International Swimming Hall of Fame. The honoree will be Ms. Pat Kramer from the Department of Children and Families. The guest speaker will be Mr. William L. White. Check out Mr. White's new website:

<http://www.williamwhitepapers.com/>

The cost for the breakfast is \$65/person. Sponsorships are also available as well as ads in the program journal. For more information and registration check out our website at www.startingplace.org

JM Founder's Day Grant

The Starting Place was recently awarded the JM Founder's Day grant from the JM Foundation in memory of one of our community's great philanthropists Jim Moran. The funding will be used to support our Therapeutic After School program which provides behavioral health services to children who have significant behavioral and mental health issues.

Our services and how to contact us

We currently provide outpatient substance abuse and mental health services to youth and adults. Our services include assessments, individual counseling, relationship and couple counseling, family counseling, case management, psycho-educational and therapy groups, school based services, and aftercare services. Services are office-based and in-home and school-based. Our hours are tailored to meet the needs of our clients. Fees are based on a sliding scale and we also accept a few different insurances.

If you would like to set up an appointment or speak to someone further about our services, please contact us at (954) 327-4060. You can also check us out at our website at www.startingplace.org