

# *Caring Homes Campaign*

## *What Is The Caring Homes Campaign?*

Parents today are concerned about the alarming use of alcohol and other drugs among our youth, as well as the social acceptability. Parents also are aware of the need to help children resist alcohol and other drugs. Young people must be able to feel that it is OK to abstain from alcohol and other drugs. Therefore, it is important for parents to take a unified stand on this issue. You are invited to join the Caring Homes Campaign, a voluntary program sponsored by the Indiana Area School District.

The Caring Homes Campaign is a way that parents can join together to help provide a safer community for their children. It does not require a commitment of extra time or effort for already busy family members. It is simply a public agreement to follow some common sense principles aimed at providing an alcohol and other drug free environment for children. Caring Homes encourages communication between parents and youth and emphasizes a strong parental support network.

Given that youth begin to form friendships with peers who may be unknown to parents, Caring Homes provides a vehicle for establishing contact with other families with whom your child may be associating. It also provides a way to know your child's whereabouts and activities. The goal is to encourage parents to talk with other parents about what their children are doing.

Last year, over 809 families participated in the Caring Homes Campaign, representing 1,336 children and youth. Based on positive feedback and interest, we are offering the opportunity for information to be updated and additional families to be added to this effort.

**If you participated in 2010/2011, you need not submit a new pledge card since we will automatically include you in the directory and generate the grade change of your child. However, if there are any other family changes, please complete a new pledge card (change in address, phone number, etc).**

## *Why Should I Join the Caring Homes Campaign?*

- Joining lets your child know that you care.
- It helps parents establish a clear and consistent "no use" message about alcohol and other drugs.
- Your child should know that you are talking with other parents and that parents have agreed on similar rules and guidelines for their children.
- You will have access to a **Fall 2012** Caring Homes Directory of parents who support this effort.

## *The Caring Homes Campaign Pledge*

The Caring Homes Pledge is not a legal contract. Rather, the Pledge is intended to signify a good faith effort to follow its principles. It creates no legal liability for the Indiana Area School District. Parents do not create any additional legal liability for themselves or their households by participating.

Every adult in the home is encouraged to sign the pledge. Only one form per household is necessary. ***By signing the pledge, unless otherwise indicated, participants grant permission to have all information that they provide listed in the Fall 2012 Caring Homes Directory.***

# *Caring Homes Campaign Pledge*

## *I Pledge to Provide a Caring Home*

Although I will do my best to uphold this pledge, I cannot guarantee the safety of any child or adolescent that is visiting my home.

### *I will:*

- Provide clear family rules for all children visiting my home.
- Provide a safe storage place for all forms of alcohol and prescription medications.
- Make an effort to inform any parent of a child that I personally observe using alcohol or other drugs.
- Welcome calls from any parent who observes or suspects my child of using alcohol or other drugs.
- Welcome calls from any parent whose child has been invited to my home.

### *I will not:*

- Knowingly allow parties or unauthorized gatherings in my home when I am not there.
- Knowingly allow illegal drugs in my home.
- Serve minors or knowingly allow youth under the legal drinking age (21) to consume alcohol in my home or on my property.

*Personal information submitted on the card below will not be sold or intentionally distributed for solicitation purposes by the Indiana Area School District.*

*Questions regarding the Caring Homes Campaign should be directed to David Allen, District Psychologist, at 724-463-8713.*

*Once completed, pledge cards may be dropped off at your child's school office. Pledge card deadline: October 4, 2012*

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## **Please Print Clearly**

Parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Others: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ (please indicate if case sensitive)

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Elementary Bldg (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*By including an e-mail address we can set up an online network between families.**