

EMPOWERING PARENTS AND GUARDIANS TO
CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL TEENS

SAFE HOMES



**A PARENT/GUARDIAN NETWORK
TAKING A STAND AGAINST THE USE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUGS BY MINORS**

**For more information regarding SAFE HOMES go to:
The Amherst Regional High School Parent Center Website at:
www.arhsparentcenter.org/Safe-Homes-Program**

WHAT IS SAFE HOMES?



SAFE HOMES is a national program that is an effective way for parents and guardians to join together to provide a safer environment for their children. Through the SAFE HOMES Agreement, parents and guardians are setting clear expectations about drug and alcohol use to their teens and to their teen's friends who visit their home.

Your teen can no longer say "you're the only parent with these rules" because you are part of a network of parents & guardians with the same rules.

HOW DOES THE SAFE HOMES PROGRAM WORK?

- ◆ Parents and guardians sign an agreement to abide by the requirements of the SAFE HOMES program (see below).
- ◆ Families who sign the agreement are listed in a directory that is distributed to all SAFE HOMES families
- ◆ Parents and guardians can utilize the SAFE HOMES directory whenever their teen is invited to a party. If the host family is a member of SAFE HOMES, parents and guardians know that their teen will be supervised while in that home. They also know that the host family welcomes communication from them and that they can feel comfortable calling to ask any questions they may have about the party.
- ◆ Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss the SAFE HOME program with their families. Also use this opportunity to discuss drug and alcohol use with your teen. Let your child know that you care about their safety.

SAFE HOMES AGREEMENT

- ✓ **I will actively supervise any parties in my home.**
- ✓ **I will not serve nor will I allow minors to consume alcohol and/or other drugs in my home or on my property.**
- ✓ **I will welcome communication with other parents in an effort to create a safer community for our children.**

SAFE HOMES agreements are not legally binding, but are statements of concern and intent.

SAFE HOMES and its members are not able to guarantee or enforce compliance.



HELPFUL TIPS FOR SAFE HOMES FAMILIES

If your teen is invited to a party or get together at someone's house...

- Tell your child that you intend to contact the host parent to find out whether there will be parental supervision and whether alcoholic beverages will be served. Make that call.
- Be sure to know what time the party will end and when your child will be home.
- Let your child know where they can reach you during the party. Discuss with them that they should call you if there are alcohol or drugs at the party.
- Be awake or awaken when your child arrives home. This encourages communication and can alert you to any problems.

If you or your teen are hosting a party...

- Be a visible host. Make periodic visits to the room. Replenishing food is a great way to keep an eye on things.
- Encourage "by invitation only" gatherings. Do not allow entry to uninvited persons.
- Don't allow guests to come and go: this reduces the risk of teens going off to drink or use drugs and returning to the home.
- Set ground rules in advance and review them with your teen. Remember the SAFE HOMES Agreement – No alcohol or other drugs! You may also wish to discuss other ground rules.
- Do not allow anyone who appears to be under the influence to leave your home. Contact the teen's parent.
- Call the parent of anyone who arrives at the party under the influence of drugs or who is in possession of drugs or alcohol.
- Do not transport any guest to another location, such as another party, without first contacting the teen's parent for permission.

The Law: Your Liability – Civil & Criminal

- Massachusetts Statute C. 138 section 34 - whoever furnishes any such beverage or alcohol for a person under 21 years of age shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$2,000 or by imprisonment for not more than one year or both.
- Serving or providing intoxicating substances to a minor may also be prosecuted under other criminal statutes, for example, *child endangerment* (such as cases where the underage drinker harms himself or another), which can result in a State prison sentence of up to 10 years and a fine up to \$150,000.
- Any person who serves alcohol resulting in intoxication is also civilly liable for injuries caused by the intoxicated person's negligence.



SAFE HOMES PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

- ✓ I will actively supervise any parties in my home.
- ✓ I will not serve nor will I allow minors to consume alcohol and/or other drugs in my home or on my property.
- ✓ I will welcome communication with other parents in an effort to create a safer community for our children.

YES, I would like to participate in the SAFE HOMES Program, which includes signing this SAFE HOMES agreement and having our name, address and phone number listed in the SAFE HOMES directory.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Parent/Guardian Name _____ **Phone (home)** _____
(please print)

Address _____ **City/State** _____ **ZIP** _____

<u>Children's Name(s)</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
---------------------------	---------------	--------------

- | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | _____ |

Please return this form to the high school office or mail to:

**Amherst Regional High School
Safe Homes Program
21 Mattoon Street
Amherst, MA 01002**

**For more information regarding SAFE HOMES go to the
Amherst Regional High School Parent Center website at:
www.arhsparentcenter.org/Safe-Homes-Program
or contact: Adrienne Levine at 549-9988 - email aclevine@comcast.net**

SAFE HOMES agreements are not legally binding, but are statements of concern & intent.
SAFE HOMES and its members are not able to guarantee or enforce compliance.

"Parents, guardians, and community working together for drug-free youth."



HOGARES RESGUARDADOS ACUERDO DE LOS PADRES O GUARDIANES



- ✓ Yo supervisaré diligentemente cualquier fiesta que tome lugar en mi hogar
- ✓ Yo no serviré, ni permitiré que menores de edad consuman bebidas alcohólicas y/o drogas en mi hogar o en mi propiedad
- ✓ Yo acepto la comunicación de otros padres, en el esfuerzo de crear una comunidad más segura para nuestros niños

SI, me gustaría participar en el Programa de Hogares Resguardados. Esto requiere firmar el siguiente acuerdo. Autorizo que mi información sea publicada en el directorio del Programa de Hogares Resguardados.

Firma del Padre o Guardián

Incluya su nombre, dirección y teléfono y por favor escriba en letra de molde la siguiente información:

Nombre del Padre o Guardián _____

Número de teléfono en hogar _____

Dirección _____

Ciudad _____ Estado _____ Zona postal _____

Nombre de sus niños	Escuela	Grado
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____

Por favor devuelva esta forma a la oficina de escuela o envía a:

**Amherst Regional High School
Safe Homes Program
21 Mattoon St.
Amherst, MA 01002**

Los acuerdos del Programa SAFE HOMES no son legalmente obligatorios, pero son declaraciones que expresan preocupación e intención.

SAFE HOMES y sus miembros no pueden garantizar, ni forzar el cumplimiento de estos acuerdos.

Para más contacto de información – Amherst Regional High School Parent Center website at: www.arhsparentcenter.org/Safe-Homes-Program o Adrienne Levine 549-9988 - aclevine@comcast.net

“Padres, guardianes y la comunidad trabajando juntos para que exista una juventud libre de drogas”.