

# MAC

GLEN RIDGE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE COMMITTEE

## 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

### MAC GOALS

In 2007, Glen Ridge's MAC focused its efforts on programs and initiatives which addressed MAC's goals to:

- *Target efforts to educate students, parents and educators about underage drinking and drug use in order to increase awareness of the problem.*
- *Provide encouragement, resources and alternative after-school activities for our youth.*
- *Target efforts to improve the health, safety and well-being of all members of the Glen Ridge Community.*

### GLEN RIDGE MAC RESOURCES

- Feel free to pick up **AntiSmoking & Alcohol Awareness Materials** at Train Station & Municipal Building. Materials are targeted for children, adults and seniors.
- Look for the **Helping Hands Newsletter** Emailed to the High School, Middle School and Ridgewood Avenue email lists monthly.
- **Guidance Libraries at Ridgewood, the Middle & High Schools** - If you are a parent looking for books, dvds, and other materials on a wide range of topics concerning students' mental, emotional and academic development, contact your school principal, who can direct you to the Guidance libraries at each School which are well stocked with current and helpful information.
- **Have questions - need confidentiality?** Reach out to the following in Town resources:
- **Glen Ridge Police Youth Officer Detective Edward Johnson** - [juvenile@glenridgenj.org](mailto:juvenile@glenridgenj.org)
- **GRHS Student Assistance Counselor** - Heather Kobylinski: [HKobylinski@glenridge.org](mailto:HKobylinski@glenridge.org) (973) 743-6945 (Special confidential number)
- **RAS Guidance Counselor** - Lauren Dutton: [LDutton@glenridge.org](mailto:LDutton@glenridge.org), 973-429-8306 x3280.
- **Domestic Violence** - If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, please contact Glen Ridge's **Domestic Violence Hotline 973-748-5400** where you can speak to someone 24 hours a day.

### 2007 GRANTS

In 2007, MAC successfully implemented the following programs paid from the Essex County MAC grant of \$40,940. Please contact MAC for additional information about any of these programs.

#### High School/Middle School - \$17,000

- Maintain Project USE rock climbing equipment
- Subsidize the Homework Planners
- Substance Abuse Presentations
- Peer Leadership Program
- Antismoking Materials
- Red Ribbon week Materials
- Helping Hands Email Newsletter
- Baby Think it Over Materials

#### Ridgewood Avenue - \$5,040

- Preteen Leadership Programs
- Dudes reward tickets
- No Name Calling Week
- AntiSmoking Materials
- Counseling Materials
- Helping Hands Email Newsletter
- Red Ribbon Week Supplies

#### Linden & Forest - \$4,300

- Character Education Program - Birthday Book Buddies Sharing Character
- Red Ribbon Week Supplies

#### Community Youth \$7,800

- GRYP - MAC supports GR recreation programs including Open Mic Nights and concerts, and the Codey Arena Ice Skating Trip.
- Summer Program - MAC subsidized equipment for the Plugged into the Band Program
- Safe Homes

#### Police Department / Community \$5,000

- Nat'l Night Out Materials
- DARE materials for Ridgewood Avenue School
- Domestic Violence Response Team pagers and training materials

#### Seniors Citizens - \$1800

- Annual Luncheon held at the Glen Ridge County Club in December with a presentation on how depression impact seniors.

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## MATCHING FUND PROGRAMS

In addition to the State funded programs, GR MAC was able to fund the following programs through Glen Ridge Resident's cash match donations.

- **Computers At the Train Station** - Just in time to provide an alternate location for students who rely on the Glen Ridge Library after-school, four laptops with internet access, a new color printer, and other technical support items were installed at the Train Station in November. The Laptops are available for use during the After-School drop off program for Grades 5-8. Monday - Friday from 3-5:30, Glen Ridge students are invited to stop by the Train Station, logon to check their emails, favorite websites, play a game, or do their homework. The Train Station has the same internet safety and security measures in place as the public schools. MAC looks forward to having Laptop based programs planned for the Glen Ridge seniors as well.
- **Jesse's Journey** - This past fall MAC sponsored two presentations of *Jesse's Journey* at the High School, one during the day for students and the other in the evening for residents and parents. The presentation had a significant impact on those who saw it; driving the point home, that trying illegal drugs, even once, can have catastrophic consequences on you & your family.
- **Ridgewood Avenue Drama Program** - In 2007, MAC sponsored RAS' Broadway Review, with over 60 students who worked diligently after-school to put on a fantastic performance. MAC looks forward to continuing the sponsorship in 2008.
- **HomeGrown: An Arts & Garden Tour** - MAC was a proud sponsor of this event in September. The self guided tour encouraged families to spend time together and walk or bike to residents' beautiful gardens and artwork.
- **Grant Applications** - If you have a program idea which supports the MAC goals outlined on the front page, email MAC and request a grant application.

## JOIN MAC -WE NEED COMMUNITY MEMBERS!

Call or email MAC Chair Kathy Weissenberger at 973.454.2391 or [MAC@glenridgenj.org](mailto:MAC@glenridgenj.org)  
PLEASE CALL / EMAIL WITH ANY QUESTIONS

## MAC 2008 EVENTS & PROGRAMS

- **Underage Substance Abuse: Facts, Prevention, Consequences & Resources.** Information is a powerful tool in the battle against underage drinking and drug use. MAC has sponsored this booklet which will be mailed to the parents of all 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades in Mid March. The booklet reviews GR Public School Resources and Substance Abuse Policies; Glen Ridge Borough Ordinances; and State of NJ Drunk Driving Laws. Also provided are resources aimed at understanding Alcohol and Drug use and preventing abuse and underage use.
- **Safe Homes Monthly Emails** - Safe Homes will be emailing resources and information regarding underage drinking and how to prevent abuse on a monthly basis. Emails will provide links to websites and other important information.
- **Programs for 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders** - MAC is working with the Recreation program, Kiwanis Club, Women's Club, Congregational Church and H&S Associations to develop After-School and evening programs for Glen Ridge residents in 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades. There will be a Ice Skating on 2/29, a Nets Game on 3/15, a canoe trip, an after-school hike in Eagle Rock, a Glen Ridge Community Clean up, and an evening at the zoo. Check your emails for details.
- **Parent Speaker Programs** - MAC will partner with the RAS Home & School Associations to present the parent speaker programs. An email survey was sent out in December to determine subjects parents were interested in. The speaker series kicked off with the Internet Safety Program. Programs are currently being planned. Check your emails for more information. If you are interested in helping out with these events, please contact Kathy Weissenberger.
- **Smoking Cessation Programs** - In the Spring, MAC will be offering a smoking cessation program in conjunction with St Barnabas. The program focuses on behavior modification. Look for information via email and in local papers.
- **MAC Website** - MAC is in the process of researching website design options for a new website which would provide information on all MAC programs.