

Teens Using Drugs

What To Know and What To Do

A FREE, two-part lecture on how to understand, identify, and help when a young person may have a problem with alcohol or other drugs

Part One: What To Know

How to understand teen substance abuse problems and recognize when teen use of alcohol or other drugs requires intervention

7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

1st Tuesday each month, October through June

2008: October 7, November 4, December 2.

2009: January 6, February 3, March 3,

April 7, May 5, June 2. (none July, August, October)

October 6, November 3, December 1.

Part Two: What To Do

What should and should not be done if a teen alcohol/other drug problem is suspected.

7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

2nd Tuesday each month, October through June

2008: October 14, November 11, December 9.

2009: January 13, February 10, March 10,

April 14, May 12, June 9. (none July, August, October)

October 13, November 10, December 8.

Presented by Ron Harrison, SW

Ron is a social worker with over 30 years of experience working with substance-involved young people and their families.

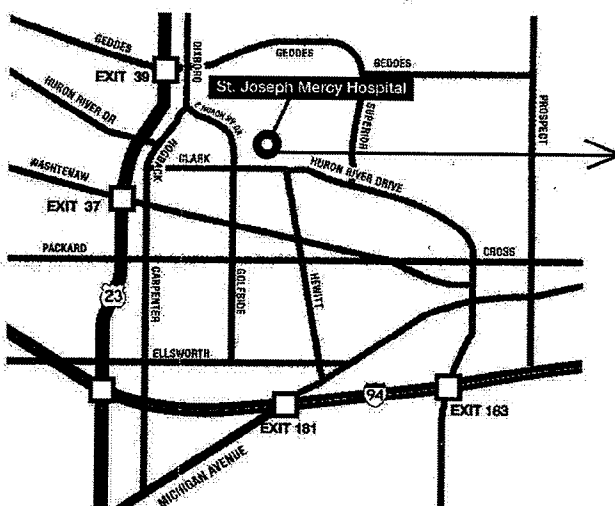
Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center, 5305 Elliott Drive, Ypsilanti, MI

Sponsored by: Dawn Farm, the Livingston/Washtenaw Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Consortium, and St. Joseph Mercy Health System Mission Services

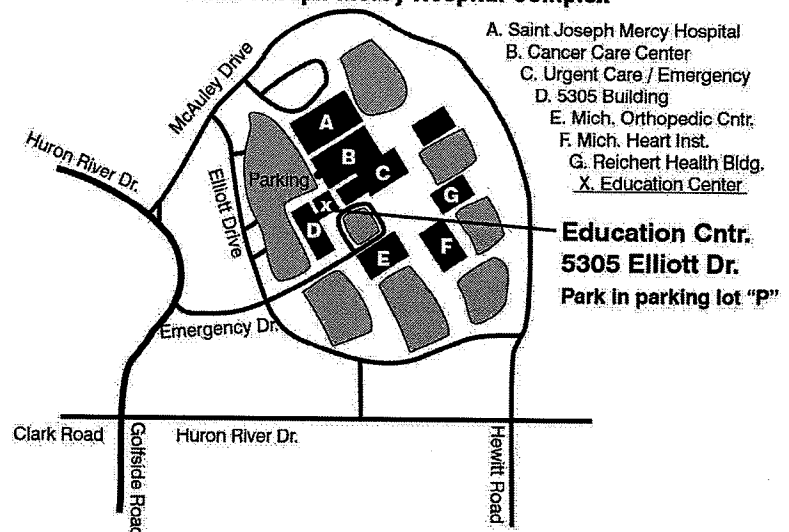
This program is targeted primarily to parents, guardians, and relatives of teens, but is inclusive of teens, people who work with or care about teens/families, students, and anyone interested for any reason – all are welcome! Admission is FREE. Registration is not required. A certificate to document attendance is provided on request.

For additional information please see www.teensusingdrugs.org or call 734-973-7892, or e-mail: jessa@med.umich.edu.

Between Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti



Saint Joseph Mercy Hospital Complex



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Sponsors: Dawn Farm; Saint Joseph Mercy Health System Mission Services;
Livingston/Washtenaw Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Consortium
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Web site: <http://www.teensusingdrugs.org/>
September 2008

The young man was a little nervous as he rose to speak. He looked like any 19 year old; his appearance gave no clue that not long ago, his seemingly innocent "experimentation" had been subverted into an escalating need for alcohol, then for cocaine, and then by his discovery that heroin helped mitigate the crushing depression that accompanied "coming down" from smoking crack. He remembered the dark days of his addiction; the drugs he never thought he'd use, the things he never imagined he'd do to get the drugs, the times he'd sobbed on the steps outside of Detox wondering if they'd admit him and if there was any real hope for him if they did. Now, with intensely hard work on his part, he was in recovery; his relationships with his family had been repaired and he was back on the road to a bright and promising future. He knew that some teens present tonight might be on the path to the same place he'd been in; and some parents might be suffering the same fear and pain his parents suffered when alcohol and drugs had seemed to him to be the solution, not the problem. The audience had learned the facts about adolescent alcohol/other drug problems. Now he would tell his story; how it was, what happened, how it is now; sharing his experience, strength and hope in recovery; showing by example what the audience now most needed to believe: there is always **hope** that addicted young people can recover.

Dear Faculty, Staff and Administration:

Adolescent substance abuse creates problems at home, at school and in the community that may masquerade as anything *but* an alcohol/other drug problem. Early intervention is critical to preventing serious, sometimes irreversible consequences. Substance-involved young people need help, and the helpers need the right knowledge and tools.

"**Teens Using Drugs: What To Know and What To Do**" is a FREE, ongoing, two-part workshop series designed to help parents, families, teens, and people who work with teens learn to understand and identify teen substance abuse problems and take appropriate, timely and effective action. Since 1999, this program has been making a difference to families struggling with teen drug use and to professionals who want to help.

The workshops are presented by Ronald E. Harrison, SW, a social worker with over 35 years of experience working in diverse settings with substance-involved adolescents and their families, and presenting community and professional education and training on the topic. The workshops are co-sponsored by Dawn Farm, the Livingston/Washtenaw Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Consortium, and Saint Joseph Mercy Health System Mission Services.

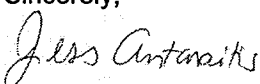
All presentations are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. People from diverse areas throughout Southeast Michigan have attended. The series is presented at the Saint Joseph Mercy Health System Education Center, 5305 Elliott Dr., Ypsilanti, from 7:30 to 9 PM on the 1st (Part 1) and 2nd (Part 2) Tuesday evenings from October through June. Free literature and resource information will be available. Ample free parking is available. Many schools approve these presentations for faculty/staff inservice hours. A certificate to document attendance can be provided.

PRESENTATIONS IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY: In addition, there will be a special presentation of this two-part series in Brighton on October 15, 2008 (part 1) and October 22, 2008 (part 2) at the St. Joseph Mercy Woodland Health Center, 7575 Grand River Road, Brighton Michigan. This is being organized by Judy Trudeau, Health Promotion Coordinator at Saint Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital. Registration is requested for these presentations only; please see the web site or call 517-545-6213 for additional information about the Brighton presentations. We anticipate presenting the series again in Livingston County in the spring.

The schools are our most important source for informing families about this free resource. We'd like to invite your attendance as well as ask your help to inform your school's families, faculty and staff. This can be through referral, posting fliers, word-of-mouth, faculty and/or parent newsletters or e-mail, listing in your school's calendar or Web site, at school events or meetings, or however works best at your school. A flier is enclosed, and we will be happy to provide additional fliers.

For information or additional fliers, please contact Jess Antanaitis at 734-973-7892 or jessa@med.umich.edu, or check the Web site at <http://www.teensusingdrugs.org>. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Jess Antanaitis (program volunteer)