

# STEPS Coalition Newsletter

Making substance abuse prevention a priority in the Southington community!



Thank you for reading the STEPS Coalition newsletter. For more information about STEPS, please [click here](#) to visit our website. Don't forget to like us on Facebook!

#SouthingtonSTEPS

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## Prevention Awareness



### The Negative Impacts of Marijuana

The use of marijuana, a Cannabis sativa derivative widely known for its recreational use and euphoric high, is extremely controversial and has gained increasingly high media coverage since becoming legalized for recreational and medical use in several states throughout the USA including California and, more recently, Massachusetts. However, despite its legalization and progress as a medicinal aid, its usage has become problematic for parents of children who may be exposing themselves to the substance. According to the National Institute of Health, marijuana is the most commonly used illicit drug among adolescents and teens. Currently,

usage among children in the 8th, 10th, and 12th grades has held constant measures over the years and has even increased in the past decade.

To read the full article from our friends at St. Joseph's College [click here](#)

## How YOU Can Take Action



**Call your legislators!** Let them know your thoughts about the negative impacts legalizing recreational marijuana use could have on YOUR community!

**Click here** to visit the CAPP (CT Association of Prevention Professionals) website for a list of legislators & a mock script of what you can say to start the conversation!

## Board Member Spotlight



Have you met Morgan Maccione? Not only  
are

we proud to say this Southington High  
School Senior is a STEPS Advisory Board  
Member & Youth Council member, she is  
also the recipient of Youth Leadership  
Award from the Southington Community  
YMCA!

Please visit our website for the [full article](#)  
on Morgan!

**STEPS Staff on the Move!**





STEPS Staff was able to join other Coalitions at the annual CADCA conference.

[Click here](#) to learn more about our exciting trip to Washington, D.C.!

## STEPS Youth Council Update



STEPS Youth Council Members have been working on an awareness project about the dangers of E-cigarettes which will soon turn into a public service announcement! In addition, they have enlisted the help of the Chamber of Commerce members to

complete to a survey regarding smoking and e-cigarette policies in the workplace. Stay tuned for updates from the STEPS Youth Council!

### **Asset of the Month: Equality & Social Justice.**

As a community, we help our young people place a high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger & poverty.

STEPS supports the Search Institute's research that developing assets in youth help build a strong foundation and deter youth from engaging in risk taking behaviors.

### **Upcoming Events**

Look for us at the Healthy Family FunFest on February 26, 2017 from 10:30am to 3:30pm at the Aqua Turf!



### **STEPS T-Shirts & Conversation Cards**



We think YOU would look great in our STEPS apparel!

T-shirts and conversation cards are available in our office at Youth Services for a suggested donation of \$10 each.



Contact us today at  
southingtonsteps@gmail.com!  
#SouthingtonSTEPS

## Southington Serves



Looking for volunteers to help out at an event or on a community project? Visit the [Southington Serves section](#) on our town website to find the form to submit your volunteer opportunities.

Looking for volunteers?



**SOUTHINGTON SERVES IS THE SOLUTION!**

Visit [www.southington.org/southingtonserves](http://www.southington.org/southingtonserves)

Volunteer opportunities can be anything from a few hours to full day events. Students throughout the Southington community are always looking for ways to get involved.

Southington Serves is brought to you by the Southington STEPS Coalition.

Questions? Contact Youth Services at 860-276-6281.

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