

*Shrewsbury Community Alliance for the  
Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse*

**Fall Events Calendar:**

**Operation Take Back New Jersey** (Community wide medicine collection), **September 25th**

Our thanks to the Shrewsbury Police Department who again this year participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Drug Enforcement Administration's program to safely collect and dispose of all unused, unwanted and expired medicines in our community. Last year over 9,000 lbs were collected by over 440 statewide law enforcement agencies. In Shrewsbury alone we collected over 25 lbs! This program, the first of its kind in the nation, was created to raise awareness that our medicine cabinets are a potential source for our young people to gain access to highly addictive and deadly prescription and OTC drugs. Over 70% of prescription drug abusers get their supply from friends and relatives.

Pharmaceutical drug abuse is on the rise. Keeping medications out of the wrong hands will help keep our families stronger and our communities safer. We thank our community for their dedication to this cause. The Alliance would also like to recognize the invaluable assistance provided by the Homesteaders, Thornbrooke Condo Association, and Shrewsbury Borough School in the promotion of this program. We value our partnership and thank them for their support.

Parent and grandparents, please regularly check your medications. Store them in a safe spot away from potential abusers. When your medications are expired, or are no longer necessary, please dispose of them safely. Go to [www.smarxtdisposal.net](http://www.smarxtdisposal.net) information on proper disposal techniques. Please note that the Monmouth County Hazardous Waste Collection site does not accept any drugs for disposal.

**Red Ribbon Week** - Shrewsbury Borough School, **October 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Theme:** "I Believe in Me. I'm Drug and Bully Free". This year's 7<sup>th</sup> annual substance abuse prevention education week will combine bully prevention awareness. During this week, SBS and the Alliance will reinforce with all the SBS students the importance of believing in themselves, resisting peer pressure, and how to stand up to bullying by "Speaking up, Reaching out, and being a Friend".

**Activities:**

- **Bullying Workshops** – Small interactive peer-to-peer workshops for grades 2-8. Topics covered:

Bullying, peer pressure, internet/cyber-bullying awareness.

- **Internet/Cyber bullying Assembly** – **Monmouth County Prosecutor, Detective Richard Shin**

*-Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>*

*Students: 9:25 am –grades 5-8*

*Parents: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm, SBS auditorium*

- **Contest: Best Creative Public Service Announcements.** Open to all grades on a volunteer basis. Winners selected based on strength and content of anti-bullying, anti-drug message that will be read to all students at beginning and end of each school day for the week.

-**Anti bullying themed story time** (grades K-1) with Shrewsbury DARE officers

-**Dress up days, "Mix it up lunch" (promoting sitting with someone new), Student council dance**

Take home materials for parents will be provided throughout the week to support and reinforce the Red Ribbon Week in-school activities. Hopefully these materials will help parents open up the lines of communication with their children about bullying and substance abuse issues.

There is no denying the existence of bullying/cyber bullying in our nation and community. However, the more we foster a climate of empathy and tolerance in our homes the more cruelty of others will not be tolerated. An insistence of respect and dignity will help reduce the chance of bullying and peer pressure to take root.

Meeting Dates: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month, 7 pm, Borough Hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!