



{ ALEINU } FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Dear Parent,

In recognition of the rise of drug and alcohol abuse among Orthodox teens in our Los Angeles community, the Bureau of Jewish Education, Jewish Family Service, and The Orthodox Principal's Council have joined together with a systematic response. By following an effective model of working with parents, educators and administrators, we can be effective in preventing and treating alcohol and drug problems within the Los Angeles area.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, nearly all Orthodox High Schools in the Los Angeles area will implement the following community prevention model to benefit our youth and promote a drug free school zone:

- Drug and alcohol education workshops and intervention skills training for teachers
- Parenting workshops on prevention skills and recognition of warning signs behaviors
- Classroom substance abuse prevention curriculum

In addition, the Orthodox high schools in the Los Angeles area have worked together with Aleinu to provide an innovative **Mandated Assistance Program (M.A.P.)**. Our goal is to offer alcohol and drug education, prevention, and treatment for our youth, as well as to educate parents and teachers.

The Mandated Assistance Program states:

1. All parents must sign a consent for participation in advance of the school year, allowing a comprehensive assessment which may include substance use screening.
2. A referral can be made by the student, friend, parent or a faculty member.
3. Referrals are made to the designated staff member at the school.
4. Once a referral is received, the designated staff member will meet with the student, contact the parent(s), and refer the student to a M.A.P. counselor for comprehensive assessment.
5. Upon referral, drug and alcohol assessment is mandated by the school. A fee of \$200.00 will be assessed for this service. Any refusal to participate in the initial assessment, or subsequent treatment plan, will necessitate a meeting between parents, administration and the student.
6. The counselor assessment will determine the course of further treatment or intervention. Compliance with recommendations is mandated in order for the student to remain enrolled in the school.
7. If treatment recommendations are made for the student, the parents must sign a consent for the M.A.P. coordinator to communicate with the school about their child's compliance and participation in the treatment plan.
8. The school reserves the right to expel any student with confirmed involvement in selling or distributing drugs or alcohol.

With the parents, students, educators and administrators working together with our mental health professionals, we hope to be involved in supporting and protecting our schools and families, letting our youth know that we truly care and we want to help in promoting a drug free zone in the Orthodox High School system of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Debbie Fox, LCSW
Director, JFS
Aleinu Family Resource Center

Rabbi Avrohom Stulberger – Valley Torah High School Rabbi Berish Goldenberg – Rabbinical Council of California Rabbi Heshy Glass – Yeshiva University of Los Angeles-Boys School Rabbi David Akhamzadeh – Ohr, Rabbi Abraham Lieberman– Yeshiva University of Los Angeles-Girls School Rabbi Dovid Thaler – Yeshiva Ohr Elchonon Chabad Rabbi Eliezer Gross - Yeshiva Gedola of Los Angeles Rabbi Shlomo Gottesman - Mesivta of Greater Los Angeles Rabbi Elehanum Weinbach- Shalhevet High School