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### **SATUCI parent newsletter offers information about youth drug and alcohol use**

A newsletter for parents about drug and alcohol use and abuse is now available from SATUCI Youth Partners. The monthly electronic newsletter offers parents and other adults timely information about various topics affecting youth today.

Being informed is a key to understanding how different issues affect our teens, according to Vickie Lewis, director of professional services at SATUCI. "Getting the word out to the community is part of Youth Partners' work. Informed parents and community members can help reduce underage drinking and drug use. Research shows that when parents know the risks of teens using alcohol and drugs, and set clear expectations, teens drink less and have fewer alcohol-related problems."

The free newsletter includes information about what SATUCI Youth Partners are doing in the community to reduce underage drinking and drug use. Youth Partners are agencies and organizations in the community that work with youth, including churches, juvenile court services, schools, health agencies, law enforcement, and businesses.

The newsletter also includes ways parents can communicate with their child, what drug trends are being seen in Iowa and Marshalltown, and information about different drugs. Results of the Iowa Youth Survey are also included. "The Iowa Youth Survey is used by Youth Partners to provide services and programs in the community," said Lewis. "We use the survey results to understand what teens' perceptions are of drug and alcohol use in the community and to plan our work according to those perceptions. Changing community norms is an important part of what we do."

To sign up for the newsletter, email [youthpartners@satuci.com](mailto:youthpartners@satuci.com).