



DOVER PARENTS PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION

WHAT IS THE PARENTS PROGRAM?

This is a voluntary program designed to enhance the lessons learned in the 5th grade D.A.R.E. program. If you elect to join the parents program, it will involve three evening training sessions (one per month). Each session will last for approximately 2 Hrs. In addition, there will be four worksheets (homework assignments) that will need to be completed by the student and adult working together. Please visit our website www.doveryouth.com for more information.

WHY HAS THIS PROGRAM BEEN DEVELOPED?

Parents, and other important adults, are the most influential people in your child's life. Research has consistently shown that drug use is much less common in homes where the dangers of drug use are discussed and where students perceive that there is a strong "no use" message given in the home.

It is often awkward or difficult for parents to initiate a conversation about drug use. Parents do not always feel confident about their own understanding or level of information about the drugs that are available to their children. This program will provide both up-to-date information and a mechanism that will cause regular discussions around drug issues between adult and student.

In addition, parents will become intimately familiar with the strategies and philosophies given to their children in the DARE classroom. This makes it easier for them to support and reinforce the DARE Program, and send a consistent message to their children.

I WORK NIGHTS; CAN SOMEONE ELSE PARTICIPATE FOR ME?

Yes! Any trusted significant adult that is willing to spend a modest amount of time with the DARE student to complete the worksheets, and who is willing to attend the evening sessions, is welcome. Stepparents, grandparents, older adult siblings, or any other responsible adult is welcome. In addition, two parents from the same household can split the responsibilities for attending the various sessions and completing the worksheets (if you elect to do this, we recommend that both attend the first evening session).

IS CHILDCARE PROVIDED?

Yes! We will be offering childcare to those parents who are unable to obtain it on their own. Please check off the appropriate box on the registration form.

WHAT IF I HAVE ALREADY ATTENDED THE PROGRAM?

You **do not** need to attend all the classes a 2nd time, however we ask that you complete the 4 homework assignments with the child going through the regular program and. Please complete the registration form and indicate you have previously completed the parents program. However, you are certainly free to come and attend the classes again. Homework is available on our website, www.doveryouth.com/dppp .

WHAT ARE THE INCENTIVES TO PARTICIPATE?

We understand that you and your kids are busy with school, sports, and family obligations. To encourage participation:

- Students will get their Drug-Free ID early and will receive their Drug Free T-shirt.
- Additionally, each participating parent will get a "Drug Free Dover" sweatshirt.

Police Officers, who will be teaching D.A.R.E. to your children, will also teach these evening sessions. These classes will be entertaining and interesting and your participation is encouraged.

ALSO: There will be a special culmination event (party) planned exclusively for the families that participate in this program.

WHAT IF WE MISS A PRESENTATION OR ASSIGNMENT?

As a matter of fairness to all participants, we must require that all four homework assignments be completed and all three evening sessions be attended. (Unless you have been through the program before). Each lesson is presented multiple times.

CONCLUSION

The DARE Officer has only 45 minutes per week for 12 weeks to make an impact on your child. The DARE Program is so much more effective when the lessons, strategies and principles are reinforced and emphasized in the home also. If any parent has any questions regarding any aspect of this program you are encouraged to contact Officer Meyer at 516-3275 or by email: m.travaglini@dover.nh.gov .

**Please return the enclosed registration to
your child's teacher.**