



Village of Mount Prospect **Press Release**

Village of Mount Prospect Human Services Department Announces New Substance Use Prevention Events

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Mount Prospect, IL – On October 7 and 8, the Village of Mount Prospect Human Services Department is hosting two free events to recognize Substance Use Prevention Month. Both events are open to the public and are part of the Department's commitment to educating the community and providing valuable resources. The goal is to empower residents to make healthy choices, reduce the stigma around substance use, and build a more resilient and supportive community.

Youth Substance Use Prevention (Spanish) - October 7

The first event, presented in partnership with behavioral health organization OMNI, is focused on empowering youth to make healthy, positive choices. Note that this event will be presented only in Spanish. Titled "Empowering the Future," this presentation will cover topics such as peer pressure, mental health, and coping strategies. This event will be held on Tuesday, October 7, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Community Connections Center (1711 Algonquin Rd.). Space is limited, and registration is required by calling the Community Connections Center at 847-506-4930.

Let's Break the Stigma & Learn about it (English) - October 8

The second event, held at Mount Prospect Village Hall (50 S. Emerson St.) on Wednesday, October 8, from 6 to 8 pm, aims to break the stigma around substance use. Note that this event will be presented only in English. The evening will feature a keynote speaker from NuLife Behavioral Health who will present on understanding substance use and supporting recovery in our community, and there will also be a Narcan training session by the Kenneth Young Center to equip attendees with a potentially life-saving skill. Following the presentation, attendees can engage with local organizations at a resource fair. The event will take place in the Farley Community Room on the first floor. Space is limited, and registration is required by calling the Human Services Department at 847-870-5680.

Both Events Will Feature the HERO "Hidden in Plain Sight" Trailer

Attendees at both events will have the opportunity to visit the Heroin Epidemic Relief Organization (HERO) "Hidden in Plain Sight" trailer. This mobile exhibit is designed to teach parents and caregivers how to recognize signs of substance use in teens.

"These events are a significant step in starting the conversation about substance use prevention, showing ways that we can actively break down the stigma around this topic and build a supportive community for all," says Julie Kane, Human Services Director. "The Human Services Department is committed to building a healthier community and providing every individual and family with the tools and support they need to overcome hardships and thrive."

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