



# HAPPY HALLOWEEN

If your teen is heading out to a Halloween party, don't forget to check the Safe Homes Network mobile app! We encourage communication between parents, so be sure to Call & Confirm. Enjoy a happy and safe Halloween!

## Why is Marijuana risky for teens?

The parts of the adolescent brain which develop first are those that control physical coordination, emotion and motivation. The part of the brain that controls reasoning and impulses (the prefrontal cortex) does not fully mature until the age of 25.

It's as if, while the other parts of the teen brain are shouting, the prefrontal cortex is not ready to play referee. This can have noticeable effects on teen behavior such as:

- difficulty holding back or controlling emotions
- a preference for high-excitement and low-effort activities
- poor planning and judgement (rarely thinking of negative consequences)
- more risky, impulsive behaviors including experimenting with other drugs and alcohol

When teens use marijuana they increase their risk for anxiety, depression and a series of attitude and personality changes. Marijuana, just like any other drug, is addictive. The likelihood of addiction increases considerably for those who start in their teenage years. In fact, 90% of our most seriously addicted adults today started drinking or using drugs as teenagers.

If your child is using marijuana, don't wait, get help for your child. Thinking it's "just" marijuana can lead to disaster and heartache for the child and entire family.



If you would like a confidential copy of the Marijuana Talk Kit: What you need to know to talk with your teen about marijuana, you can email us [here](#) or contact the Partnership for Drug-Free Kids at 1-855-DRUGFREE or at [Drugfree.org](http://Drugfree.org).

## Congratulations to our Safe Homes Network winners!



L to R: Coalition board member, Dwight Johnson; Gina woods, Jill Reed, FHUSD Superintendent Dr. Patrick Sweeney.



Dr. Steven Freyer-Melk with winner Helen Iowaka.

Congratulations to Jill Reed, winner of the \$250 FH Coalition drawing at the FHHS football game on September 18th. Helen Iowaka, was the winner of the \$100 drawing at the girl's varsity volleyball game on October 3rd.

Come cheer on the Falcons October 23rd for the last home game of the season and *your* chance to win \$250! Everyone in attendance will receive a ticket to the drawing to be held at the conclusion of the game. Safe Homes Network members will receive an additional ticket so be sure to stop by our table to get your lucky ticket and encourage your friends to take the pledge!

**THANK YOU! SPOTLIGHT**



Thank you to our local MCSO (Maricopa County Sheriff's Office) for participating in last month's National Rx Take Back Day. Together with the permanent drop box located at Town Hall, Fountain Hills residents have safely disposed of over 300 lbs. of unused prescription medications.