

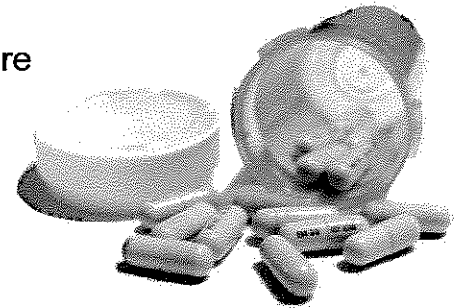


# Prescription Drug Abuse By Youth

## A “Dose” of Knowledge

### Did You Know That?

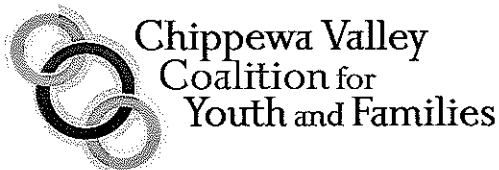
- 1 in 7 teens in the U.S. report having abused prescription drugs to “get high”.
- Prescription drugs are the #1 choice to get high among 12-13 year olds.
- More than 60% of teens say prescription pain relievers are easy to get from the medicine cabinet at home, the homes of relatives, or from friends.
- Prescription drug abuse can lead to addiction and/or death.
- Emergency room visits due to abuse of prescription drugs are greater than the number of visits due to abuse of marijuana and heroin combined.



### What Can You Do?

#### Secure Medication at Home and Dispose Properly

- **REMOVE** drugs from your medicine cabinet and hide them, lock them up or take them out of your house.
- **SAFEGUARD** all medicines at home by monitoring quantities and controlling access.
- **WARN** your child/teen that taking prescription drugs without a doctor’s supervision can be just as dangerous and potentially lethal as taking street drugs.
- **SUPERVISE** your child/teen’s Internet use. Many pharmacy sites are not regulated and will sell medications without prescriptions.
- **TALK** to other family members (especially grandparents) and the parents of your child/teen’s friends about the importance of safeguarding medications in the home.



Information provided by the Chippewa Valley Coalition for Youth and Families - Joining School and Community in promoting safe, healthy and drug free youth and supporting families.

For more information about Prescription Drug Abuse or the Coalition,  
Call 586/723-2360, email [info@cvcoalition.org](mailto:info@cvcoalition.org), or visit [www.cvcoalition.org](http://www.cvcoalition.org).