

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY FORUM

Potential legalization of marijuana and the impact on our youth

Wednesday, January 25, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Guilford Community Center, 32 Church Street, Guilford

Please join public health experts and state legislators for an important conversation about the proposed legalization of non-medical marijuana in Connecticut and the serious implications this decision would have on our youth. New scientific research will be shared.



THE FACTS ARE CLEAR:

- Marijuana use poses neurological risks for the developing adolescent brain. It affects memory, cognition, motivation, emotion and other executive brain functions.
- Long-term recreational use at a young age causes IQ loss and a higher prevalence of psychosis and schizophrenia.
- Young people who become addicted to marijuana often try other addictive drugs, which can be fatal.
- After alcohol, marijuana is the drug most often linked to car accidents, including those involving deaths.

SPEAKERS:

PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS:

Deepak Cyril D'Souza, MD, MBBS: Guilford resident, physician and Yale Medical School professor with 25 years of experience researching the long-term effects of marijuana on the brain.

Andy Buccaro, LCSW, LADC: Executive Director and founder of Project Courage, a substance abuse treatment center that provides specialized treatment for adolescents and young adults.

Legislators: Ted Kennedy Jr., State Senator; and Sean Scanlon and Vincent Candelora, State Representatives, will speak about the current climate in Hartford regarding potential legalization.

Guilford DAY (Developmental Asset Youth) Leader: A youth member will speak about the student perspective on the risks of marijuana on youth.

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