

PRESS RELEASE

Grand Haven Charter Township
13300 168th Avenue
Grand Haven, Michigan 49417

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
William D. Cargo, Grand Haven Township Superintendent

Phone: 616.842.5988 (ext. 324)
Home Phone: 616-847-6216

Fax: 616.842.9419

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOWNSHIP OFFERS DRUG AND ALCOHOL KITS FOR PARENTS

Grand Haven Township, Michigan, February 22, 2008.

“Parents have to struggle against a tide of bad influences that can lead their teenagers to try drugs or alcohol. Many parents find themselves at their wit’s end trying to interpret the different moods and behaviors of their adolescent children. This can cause parents to overlook some of the signs that their children might be involved in drugs and alcohol,” Township Manager Bill Cargo noted.

“Unfortunately, if a parent suspects their child might be abusing drugs or alcohol; it is difficult to verify their concerns without the involvement of police or school officials. This might further discourage some parents from becoming more engaged,” Cargo explained.

“To empower parents and give them the ability to test their children with immediate results and total anonymity, Grand Haven Charter Township will begin to sell inexpensive drug or alcohol kits that will allow parents to test their children in the privacy of their own homes,” Cargo said.

“Whether the problem is marijuana, cocaine, ecstasy, barbiturates, morphine, or alcohol, one simple test can provide accurate results within three to eight minutes,” Cargo noted.

A “four panel” drug test kit will sell for \$12 while a kit to detect the presence of alcohol will cost \$3. These kits can be purchase at the payment windows of the Township offices at 13300 168th Avenue during normal business hours. The Township will keep **no** records of who purchases the kits.

“In addition, the Township will distribute brochures and guides to help educate parents on the physical symptoms and behaviors that might indicate drug or alcohol abuse,” Cargo said.

Cargo noted that the drug and alcohol testing kits, along with the brochures, are part of the *Law Enforcement Against Drugs* or LEAD program. More information from LEAD can be found at www.leadTDS.com.

In addition, LEAD maintains a “Parents Help Line” at 1-800-284-5444.

(Attached are two photos – the first a picture of the kits and brochures that are available at GHT. The second is a photo of Township receptionist Shelly Meade distributing a drug kit. Copies of the photos can be emailed upon request.)

END

