



GAMBLING-FREE EVENT

Whereas, recent research indicates that among New York State youth between the ages of 12 and 17, 39.5% have gambled in the past year. Nearly 30% of those youth stated that they began at age 10 or younger. NYS youth who gamble reported higher past 30-day rates of alcohol use, marijuana use, consumption of energy drinks and incidents of being drunk than non-gamblers (OASAS, 2018).

Whereas, it is known that the younger an adolescent begins gambling, the more likely he/she is to develop a gambling addiction;

Whereas, underage gambling brings with it a number of negative consequences, many of which are serious, and can be devastating to the youth as well as his/her family and friends, including:

- Increased risk of delinquency and crime
- Damaged relationships
- Poor academic performance (Wayne, 1996),
- Increased likelihood of developing mental health issues including depression and alcohol/substance abuse disorders (Hardoon, 2002),
- Attempted suicide (Gupta, 1998),
- Overall poor general health (Potenza, 2002)

Whereas, decreasing youth access to gambling activities is shown to decrease the prevalence of underage gambling, and in turn, to decrease the rates of problem gambling in a community (Messerlian, 2005)

Therefore, the organization (stated below) has decided that the event (stated below) will be gambling-free in an effort to protect the youth of our community.

Name of Event

Date of Event

Name of Supporting Organization

County

Authorized Signature

Est Number of Youth Affected