

Research shows:

Research shows that the risk for alcohol and other drug use skyrockets when children enter the sixth grade, between the ages of 12 and 13. To be effective in preventing alcohol use by teenagers, we must reach out to and educate children in grades 1-5.



MADD's National Elementary School Project is a nationwide effort to prevent alcohol use by youth, and *Protecting You/Protecting Me*® is an important first step in the project.



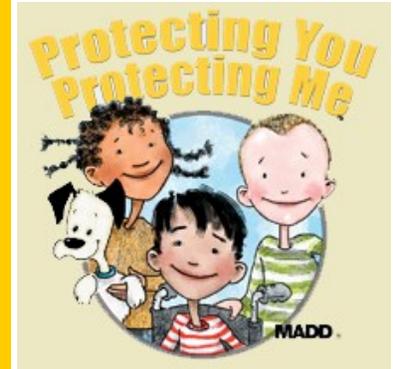
Mercer Council is a private, non-profit, community-based health organization serving Mercer County. We have been providing quality prevention education, information, early intervention and referral services to county residents, businesses, schools, faith-based organizations, municipal alliances and social services agencies since 1978.

Mercer Council is a proponent of healthy lifestyles, working hard to minimize the incidence and impact of substance abuse on our county residents. We believe that substance abuse and violence are preventable through education and early development of life skills and that collaboration between communities and individuals can make a difference.

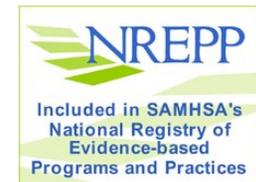
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PYPM is a MADD program.



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Protecting You, Protecting Me



A alcohol use prevention curriculum for children grades 1-5.

Protecting You/Protecting Me[®] gives students essential knowledge and skills that:

- Increase their non-use attitudes and decisions
- Increase their intentions not to ride with an impaired driver
- Improve their ability to protect themselves when they have no option but to ride with a driver who is not alcohol-free

Protecting You/Protecting Me[®] (*PY/PM*) is an alcohol use prevention curriculum for children in grades 1-5. It has been designated a Model Program by SAMHSA, a division of the U.S. Department of Health.

PY/PM helps reach children before they have fully shaped their attitudes and opinions about alcohol use by youth. *PY/PM* provides a series of science, and health-based lessons that teach children how to protect themselves and make informed decisions. The lessons reinforce the fact that the brain's of children and adolescents are still maturing and respond to alcohol dramatically differently than those of adults, putting children at a much higher risk.

In addition, the lessons also cover a variety of life skills including media awareness, communication, and vehicle safety.



The curriculum focuses on the effects of alcohol on the developing brain during the first 21 years of life.

The lesson descriptions reinforce the fact that the brains of children and adolescents are still maturing and respond to alcohol in a dramatically different fashion than adults', putting children at a much higher risk.

The curriculum provides a series of 40 lessons, eight lessons each for grades 1-5. Each grade level has its own materials.



For more information:

Visit:
<http://www.hazelden.org/web/go/pypm>

Or

Call:
Mercer Council at (609) 396—5874