

# PROJECT MEDICINE DROP



KEEP YOUR

Prescription  
Medications

**SAFE**

**Two in five teenagers mistakenly believe prescription drugs are “much safer” than illegal drugs, according to the DEA, and three in 10 teens mistakenly believe prescription painkillers are not addictive.**

**Each day, 2,500 youths nationally abuse a prescription pain reliever for the very first time, according to the Office of National Drug Control Policy.**

If you keep prescription medicines in your home, you have the responsibility to keep them safe.

**Talk to Your Children and Grandchildren.**

- Discuss the dangers of taking OTC and prescription drugs with the young people in your home.
- Make sure they know you will be keeping an eye on the OTC and prescription drugs in your home and that you have asked family friends, grandparents, and other relatives to do the same.
- Be alert for possible signs of abuse and addiction such as hyperactivity or sleeplessness (seen with stimulants); slowed movements or reaction time, slurred speech, or disorientation (seen with depressants or painkillers); sudden weight loss or weight gain; excessive sleep.

**Keep Track of the Medications In your Home.**

- Inventory the OTC and prescription medications in your home every six months, or more frequently if you suspect abuse.
- Keep all medications in one location in your home.
- Consider keeping them in a locked cabinet, locked drawer, or childproof lock box.

**Dispose of Unused Medications Properly.** Find the Project Medicine Drop box nearest your home, or visit [www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/meddrop](http://www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/meddrop) for additional tips.



**To learn more call 800-242-5846 or visit [www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/meddrop](http://www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/meddrop)**