

From Our Constituent Services' Desk...



In 1980, the National Family Partnership (NFP), formerly the National Federation of Parents for Drug Free Youth, was established. Starting as a grassroots, non-profit dedicated to drug prevention among our youth, they have become a leader in drug prevention education & advocacy.

In 1985, the **Red Ribbon Campaign®** was started after drug traffickers in Mexico City murdered DEA agent Kiki Camarena. This began the continuing tradition of displaying Red Ribbons as a symbol of intolerance towards the use of drugs. The mission is to present a unified and visible commitment towards the creation of a DRUG-FREE AMERICA.¹

How can you get involved? You may already know, schools across America participate by hosting activities during school hours during the week; however, parents can also be involved by talking with their children; no matter their age. According to NFP, *“Children of parents who talk to their teens regularly about drugs are 42% less likely to use drugs than those who don’t, yet only a quarter of teens report having these conversations.”* Prevention starts at home; talk to your children, especially your teens.

If you suspect your child has already tried or is using drugs, there are resources to seek help.

- Addiction Center (<https://www.addictioncenter.com>) is maintained by providers which offers 24/7 assistance.

- The US Department of Health & Human Services, [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#) offers a treatment locator on their site.
- The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) also offers access to 24/7 assistance by calling the Georgia Crisis & Access Line at **1-800-715-4225** or [online](#).
- Additional information on **Red Ribbon Campaign®** can be found online at www.redribbon.org. You will find The Pledge; the 2019 Red Ribbon Planning Guide; as well as other [ideas you can do at home](#) or in your community.
- [Natural High.org](#) uses videos from celebrity storytellers to start conversations at home or in your school.

If you have questions or need assistance with a federal agency, please feel free to call our office at 770-429-1776 or email us at caseworkgall@mail.house.gov. We look forward to serving you, should you need our assistance.

Source: “About Us.” *Red Ribbon Campaign*, 2019, <http://redribbon.org/about/>