



Pinetop Lakeside Advocates Against Drugs
1360 N Niels Hansen Ln, Lakeside, AZ 85929
Chairman: Dave Clark, (928) 205-8768

Press Release

For immediate release

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PLAAD Hosts Date Nite on Childhood Depression at BRMS

Pinetop-Lakeside Advocates Against Drugs and Blue Ridge Middle School will join forces to present information to parents and students on childhood depression during the school's third "date nite". The event is Oct. 20, 5:30-7:30 pm at Blue Ridge Middle School/Junior High, 3050 N. Porter Mountain Rd., Lakeside.

Depression doesn't only affect adults. In the US, 25 percent of children suffer from various stages of depression. Clinical depression goes beyond sadness. It's more than having a bad day or coping with a major loss such as the death of a parent, grandparent, or even a favorite pet. It's also not a personal weakness or a character flaw. Youth suffering from clinical depression cannot simply "snap out of it."

As many as one in every 33 children and one in eight adolescents may have depression. Two-thirds of children with mental health problems do not get the help they need. Suicide is the third leading cause of death for 15- to 24-year-olds and the sixth leading cause of death for 5- to 15-year-olds.

Depression is a brain disorder that affects the entire body. Depression affects the way one feels, thinks, and acts. Early-onset depression in children can lead to school failure, alcohol or other drug use, and even suicide. Fortunately, it is highly treatable.

Psychiatrist Dr. Jennifer Foran and counselor Dr. Brian Merrill will address adults about the signs, symptoms, causes and treatments for childhood depression. Psychologist Dr. Jeff Hurst will work separately with youth in attendance to discuss feelings, emotions and coping.

The evening will open with pasta dinner, donated by Red Devil Pizza. Parents planning to attend must confirm in advance by calling BRMS office at 928-368-2300 ext. 1504.

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Calendar item:

Blue Ridge Middle School and Pinetop Lakeside Advocates Against Drugs host a parent-student date nite October 20th to address childhood depression. The 5:30-7:30 pm program starts with pasta dinner donated by Red Devil Pizza. Doctors Jennifer Foran, Brian Merrill and Jeff Hurst will address youth and adults in separate audiences. Attendance is at no cost and is open to the public is by advance reservation before Oct. 13th at (928) 368-2300 ext 1504. Location is 3050 N. Porter Mountain Rd., Lakeside.