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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Eastern Connecticut Prevention Coalitions Collaborate to Create Awareness
of Disguised Items that Hide Alcohol or Drug Paraphernalia**

On Wednesday, August 18th, from 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Colchester Youth & Family Services, Griswold Pride, Ledyard Prevention Coalition, New London Community & Campus Coalition, Norwich Prevention Coalition, SERAC, and Windham Pride Coalition will premier **EXPOSED: *What Every Parent of Teens Should Know to Prevent Risky Behaviors***. This interactive 13-minute video offers adults insights into current trends in youth substance abuse, drug paraphernalia, concealment of illicit drugs & alcohol.

The film looks at youth substance use and other risky behaviors and teaches adults how to talk to kids to prevent it and what to do if they are using drugs or alcohol. We'll watch a mom as she finds items to conceal alcohol, marijuana, and more in her kids' bedrooms and then talk her through the next steps, making sure there is a conversation and not a confrontation. After the film screening, prevention specialists and coalition leaders will lead a follow-up discussion and be available to answer questions, provide resources, show additional concealment items that the film highlights, and discuss what to do if a problem is suspected.

In our region, we know that 1 in 4 teens have tried alcohol, with the average age to start of 14 (SERAC Youth Survey Regional Summary 2018-2019). We also know that parents can play a huge role in preventing youth substance use and risky behaviors by sharing their expectations and providing clear rules and boundaries.

To register for this Facebook Live event, visit Ledyard Prevention Coalitions' Facebook page to find the event and registration information or register: www.airtable.com/shrRmuKm9MqZEiqUW

