Brave and Bold Mission Statement

**Mission Statement**

Through community forums and other methods of public outreach, our mission is to increase parent awareness of adolescent decision making as it relates to underage substance abuse and to offer both community-wide and parenting strategies to guide teens away from harmful behaviors and influences.

We also work to foster a community spirit in which parents will support each other and students will develop responsible, law-abiding solutions to the challenges they face.

**History and Public Outreach**

Brave and Bold is a community coalition of parents, public servants, school administrators and staff, and prevention specialists.

Brave and Bold evolved in the wake of the May 15, 2011 DUI crash in Olney, MD that involved five youths with ties to Magruder High School; the collision resulted in the death of three of those youths.

Parents, prevention specialists, police and the Montgomery County State’s Attorney met with Principal Leroy Evans over the summer and the first coalition meeting was held August 25.

The consensus of that meeting was that we would provide support to parents in the community in order to provide them with information that would be a guide in helping them assist their children in making good decisions regarding underage drinking.

To date, we have sponsored or supported three parent forums, a school-wide assembly and the Magruder 21 Reasons campaign (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZO-_BgjvUfY>). Brave and Bold also participates in resource fairs, posts notices on the parent listservs for Magruder and feeder middle schools, and you can “like” us on facebook (our logo is a white hand on a lavender heart)!

Our public outreach includes sponsoring resource tables at the MCPS Back to School Fair and other events; several testimonies to the MCPS Board of Education (which were instrumental in the Superintendent’s decision to hold the October 7, 2013 community forum on underage substance abuse, <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/community-engagement/community.aspx?id=320423>) and the Montgomery County Council, and representation in the media (samples include <http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-parents-key-to-surviving-senior-week-take-it-seriously/2012/06/14/gJQAPnGJdV_story.html> and page 6 in <http://www.bethesdamagazine.com/Bethesda-Magazine/September-October-2012/Wasted-Youth/index.php?cparticle=6&siarticle=5#artanc>).

All members volunteer their time to this coalition.

For more information or to subscribe to our newsletter, contact Patty Winters, Coordinator, at braveandbold2011@gmail.com. You can also “like” us on facebook; our logo is a white hand on a lavender heart.

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