

The Stand Project aims to stop addiction

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UPPER ARLINGTON, Ohio (WCMH) — One central Ohio community is tackling the issue of youth drug addiction head-on.

Research has shown at least half of high school seniors in Upper Arlington drink alcohol at least once a month and 27 percent of them smoke marijuana.

Local leaders are joining with parents, students and law enforcement officials to put a stop to it.

They’re calling it “The Stand Project”.

It’s goal is preventing drug abuse and providing support for families who need help to put an end to an addiction.

Jenny Ledman, chairman of The Stand Project, has a son who is a recovering addict.

She explains how addiction does not discriminate.

“In this community when you think it doesn’t exist or we don’t really have that kind of problem here we are saying no, it kind of exists everywhere and we would be foolish to ignore that,” said Ledman.

Paul Imhoff, Superintendent of Upper Arlington Schools and member of The Stand Project, explained the importance of communication between parents and children.

“What the research shows is as parents one of the best things we can do for our kids as parents is just to talk to our kids about these things from an early age,” said Imhoff.

Members of The Stand Project are working to educate the community on both the physical and emotional effects of the drugs have on young people through several events featuring a variety of well-known experts on addiction.

[http://www.thestandprojectua.org](http://www.thestandprojectua.org/)