



**Mayor's Task Force on Youth Alcohol & Drug Use
October 2009
Submitted by Joan Janusz & Susan Sanderson, Co-Chairs**

Summary of Current Projects:

- Provided support to the planned Town Hall Meeting scheduled for 3:00 p.m. on November 8, 2009, at the Main Street Moravian Church (713 Division Street). The event will feature a panel of local speakers sharing their personal stories of addiction and recovery in Northfield. The event is free and all are encouraged to attend.
- Coordinated the Task Force's monthly column for the *Northfield News*. The October piece was written by guest Pastor Amy Gohdes-Luhman, who is leading the November 8 event. Pastor Amy was also interviewed on KYMN's Morning Program on October 26.
- The "Take It to The Box" medication disposal program has been in operation for a full month, with exciting results. Community members continue to bring their no longer needed prescription and over-the-counter medications to the disposal boxes in the Northfield and Faribault Police Stations. Throughout the month, an average of one grocery bag per day of medication has been deposited in the boxes. The Mayor's Task Force would like to thank Northfield Police Chief Mark Taylor and Faribault Police Chief Dan Collins for their leadership in this local effort.
- Partnering with the Northfield Middle School to launch a Positive Community Norms campaign at the middle school throughout this school year. Neuger Communications Group is again donating their services to help lead this campaign, which was piloted last year at the Northfield High School. The campaign stresses the healthy decisions made by most Northfield students, including the decisions not to use alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs.
- Continued to offer encouragement and support for the creation of a halfway house in Northfield for women in recovery from alcohol or drug addiction
- A subcommittee of the Mayor's Task Force is beginning conversations about the resources and supports available to young adults (ages 18-23) in the community.

For more information on the Mayor's Task Force, visit www.mayorstaskforcenorthfield.org