She gets her hair from her mom. Her eyes from her dad. And her drugs from her parent’s kitchen cabinet.

BE AWARE. DON’T SHARE.”
For more information, go to www.lockyourmeds.org

53%
of people 12 and older who abuse prescription drugs get them from family or friends.

“Some parents can become inadvertent drug pushers by leaving their prescription opioids, stimulants and depressants in places where their kids can get them.”

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.,
Chairman and President,
The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University

PARENTS GUIDE
To Prescription Drug Abuse

Source of Pain Relievers for Abusers
Age 12+ 2016

- Pain relievers
- Non-prescription stimulants
- Non-prescription depressants
- Non-prescription benzodiazepines
- Non-prescription cannabinoids

*Percentage from friend or relative is derived before rounding of individual sources.
Source: SAMHSA 2016 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (September 2016)
Over 6.5 million people age 12 and older report abusing prescription drugs.1 Due to the fact that prescription drugs, when used as prescribed, can improve one’s health, many teens believe they are a safe way to get high.

Lock Your Meds™

Every day, 1,700 children and young adults begin experimenting with prescription drugs.2 Only 4.9% of children who abuse prescription drugs say they get the medication from a stranger, a drug dealer or the internet.1 Prevent your children from abusing your own medication by securing your meds in places your child cannot access.

Educate Yourself & Your Child

Learn about the most commonly abused types of prescription medications (pain relievers, sedatives, stimulants and tranquilizers). Then, communicate the dangers to your child regularly; once is not enough.

Set Clear Rules & Monitor Behavior

Express your disapproval of using prescription drugs without a prescription. Monitor your child’s behavior to ensure that the rules are being followed.

Pass It On

Share your knowledge, experience and support with the parents of your child’s friends. Together, you can create a tipping point for change and raise safe, healthy and drug-free children. Learn more about ways to get involved at www.nfp.org.

What to Do If Your Child Already Has a Problem

If you suspect your teen is using drugs, do not wait to do something about it. Visit the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration at www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov for a listing of treatment centers in your area, or call 1-800-662-HELP (4357).

Our Pledge

To Prevent Children’s Prescription Drug Abuse

1. As parents, we will talk to our children about the dangers of taking medications without a prescription.
2. We will set clear rules for our children about not sharing medicine and using medication only as prescribed.
3. We will secure our medicine to prevent our children and guests from accessing it.
4. We will take stock of our medicine, regularly checking to see that nothing is missing.
5. We will encourage family and friends to follow the same guidelines to keep children safe from prescription drug abuse.

Home Medicine Inventory Card

Insert date when you have reviewed your inventory each month.

PROPERLY DISPOSE OF OLD AND UNUSED MEDICATIONS

For guidelines on safe and proper disposal of medications, visit lockyourmeds.org and click on Safe Disposal.