

# **NOPE** NARCOTICS **OVERDOSE** **TASK FORCE** PREVENTION & Pinellas County **EDUCATION**

NOPE of Pinellas (501c3) was founded in 2010 after Mark and Laurie Serra, lost their oldest son Matthew (Anona Elementary, Bauder Elementary, Seminole Middle, and Seminole High) to prescription drug overdose. The Pinellas Sheriff's Office, parents, and community leaders have partnered with NOPE of Pinellas to provide free presentations to middle and high school students, parent groups, civic groups, and professional groups in the Pinellas County area. To date, NOPE of Pinellas has reached over 200,000 students and thousands of parents/citizens.

NOPE of Pinellas has presented to the following Pinellas Schools: Seminole Middle, Seminole High, Oak Grove Middle, Clearwater High, Clearwater Intermediate, Clearwater Fundamental, Countryside High, Safety Harbor Middle, Palm Harbor Middle, Palm Harbor High, Tarpon High, Tarpon Middle, East Lake Middle, East Lake High, Lealman Discovery, NE High, St. Pete High, Thurgood Marshall Fundamental, Madeira Beach Fundamental, Osceola Middle, Osceola High, Bay Point Middle, Azalea Middle, Carwise Middle, Dunedin Middle, Dunedin High, Gibbs High, Largo Middle, Largo High, Meadowlawn Middle, Pinellas Park High, Morgan Fitzgerald Middle, Pinellas Park Middle, Tyrone Middle, FACE IT groups, Northside Christian, Indian Rocks Christian, St. Pete Catholic, Clearwater Central Catholic, St. John Vianney Catholic, and Plato Academy.

NOPE of Pinellas has presented to the following Universities/Colleges: St. Petersburg College, Pasco/Hernando Community College

NOPE of Pinellas has presented to: numerous middle and high school PTA groups, churches, synagogues, Pinellas Foster Parents Group, Guardian ad Litem Group, All Children's Hospital Round Table Event for physicians, Ready For Life Foster Group, Sheriff's Youth Ranch, Pinellas Mayor's Council, Competitive Sports Teams, and the Pinellas Health Department.

NOPE Curriculum during the free student and community presentations includes the following points:

- Addiction
- Signs of Overdose
- Combining Drugs (Alcohol included) can equal overdose
- It doesn't take addiction to die/one night of experimentation can cost you your life
- Call 911/Good Samaritan Act discussed
- Discussion of not only prescription drugs but current synthetics (Molly, Spice, etc) and street drugs can also result in overdose and significant health issues including seizures, heart problems, etc.

Middle School NOPE curriculum includes different stories than those presented at the high schools. The core curriculum points are covered with both age groups. Parent stories of their loss of a child due to drug use is included in all presentations. Some parents have lost a child due to one night of experimentation, others have lost their children due to addiction after starting with alcohol and marijuana at an early age. The multimedia presentations involve a power point, posters, movies, and an actual 911 call.

Presentations vary in length depending on the group and time available. A minimum time of 45/50 to 60 minutes is needed for student presentations and a typical parent/community presentation runs 1 to 1.25 hrs.

Presentations typically involve a minimum of three presenters including a moderator, school resource officer, and parents. Core curriculum points are covered numerous times in different ways throughout the student and community presentations.

NOPE of Pinellas' Goal: to educate the community, to encourage positive choices, and to recognize the disease of addiction and the drug epidemic here in our Pinellas Community. Through awareness, education, and open communication, our goal is to save lives within Pinellas County by diminishing the frequency and impact of substance abuse and overdose deaths.

NOPE of Pinellas Coordinator: Laurie Serra  
727 424 6906  
[Laurie.serra@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.serra@gmail.com)

NOPE of Pinellas Administrative Assistant:  
Sherri Briand  
[Sbriand10@gmail.com](mailto:Sbriand10@gmail.com)  
727-251-8960

Our website: [nopepinellas.org](http://nopepinellas.org)