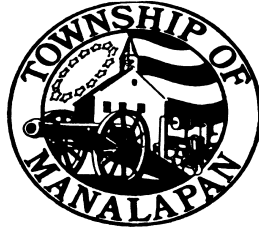


Township of Manalapan

BOARD OF HEALTH

120 Route 522 • Manalapan, NJ 07726 • 732-446-8345 • Fax 732-446-1576

Website: www.mtnj.org



February is NATIONAL TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

More than 1 in 10 teens who have been on a date have also been physically abused by a boyfriend or a girlfriend in the last year. Unhealthy relationships can start early and last a lifetime. Teens often think some behaviors, like teasing and name calling, are a “normal” part of a relationship. However, these behaviors can become abusive and develop into more serious forms of violence. Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month is a national effort to raise awareness and protect teens from violence.

How are Public Health Authorities make a Difference?

- Using this month to raise awareness about teen dating violence and take action toward a solution for both home and in the local communities.

What is Dating Violence?

Teen dating violence is defined as the physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional violence within a dating relationship, including stalking. It can also occur in person or electronically and might occur between a current or former dating partner. Here are different words describing teen dating violence:

- Relationship abuse
- Intimate partner violence

- Relationship violence
- Dating abuse
- Domestic abuse
- Domestic violence

What are the consequences of dating violence?

As teens develop emotionally, they are heavily influenced by experiences in their relationships. Healthy relationship behaviors can have a positive effect on a teen's emotional development. Unhealthy, abusive, or violent relationships can have severe consequences and short- and long-term negative effects on a developing teen. They may experience the following;

- Symptoms of depression or anxiety
- Thoughts about suicide
- Engagement of unhealthy behaviors such as drug use or alcohol

Make a Difference!

- Be a role model- treat your kids with respect and others
- Start talking to your kids at an early age about healthy relationships
- Get involved with efforts to prevent dating violence at your teen's school

For more information contact the Manalapan Township Health Department:

Hours:

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Location:

Manalapan Town Hall
120 Route 522 & Taylors Mills Road, Manalapan, NJ 07726

Phone: (732) 446-8345

Fax: (732) 446-1576