

Middle and high school students who felt their parents set clear rules most of the time were significantly less likely to report using illicit drugs (37% and 28%, respectively) than students whose parents rarely set clear rules.

2009 Pride Survey National Summary

To learn more about Rosecrance, visit our website at [www.rosecrance.org](http://www.rosecrance.org).

PROGRAM LOCATION:  
Griffin Williamson Campus  
1601 University Drive  
Rockford, IL

815.391.1000  
[www.rosecrance.org](http://www.rosecrance.org)

Rosecrance is Accredited by The Joint Commission, is licensed and partially funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse, is a certified Medicaid provider and is approved by most insurance companies.

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## Drug/Alcohol Family Assistance

Providing prevention/intervention support for youth and their families



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## What is the Purpose of DAFA?

DAFA provides education, support and direction to families and their children who may be at risk of more serious involvement with alcohol and other drugs.

The Drug/Alcohol Family Assistance Program (DAFA) is a prevention service for families, schools, law enforcement agencies and the judicial circuit courts in Rockford and the surrounding area. Parents and youth are offered tools to make a healthy drug-free life a reality.

### WHO WOULD BENEFIT FROM THIS PROGRAM?

A young person who has undergone recent lifestyle changes and his/her parents may benefit by learning the skills necessary to cope effectively with emotional/behavioral difficulties. Recent lifestyle changes may include one or more of the following:

- Increase in school disciplinary actions
- Lower than expected grades
- Decreased interest or participation in extracurricular activities
- Increased tardiness/absenteeism
- Use of or suspected use of alcohol or other drugs
- Dishonesty regarding personal alcohol or other drug use or friend's use

- Less time at home; secretive or evasive concerning whereabouts and activities
- Obvious signs of being under the influence of chemicals such as smelling chemicals on breath or clothing, or altered speech, etc.
- Noticeable change in friends over a short period of time

### WHAT ARE THE COMPONENTS OF THE DAFA PROGRAM?

The DAFA program consists of:

- A comprehensive assessment
- Five class sessions (held once a week for two hours each) in which the child and parent(s) must be present

### WHAT INFORMATION IS COVERED IN THE CLASSES?

Participation in DAFA will increase awareness and understanding of the effects of adolescent drug and/or alcohol use, abuse and dependence on youth and their families.

Class information includes:

- Adolescent attitudes towards tobacco, alcohol and other drug use
- Family communication skills
- Trends and stages of adolescent drug and/or alcohol abuse

- Characteristics of commonly used chemicals
- Stages of adolescent development
- Effective disciplinary approaches

### WHAT IS THE COST TO ATTEND?

DAFA classes are an education and awareness series for youth and their parents at no cost to the participants.

### HOW DO WE REGISTER FOR CLASSES?

Youth (12 -18) and their families can call 815.391.1000 to arrange a free consultation. A Rosecrance assessment counselor will review academic, social, legal, emotional and behavioral life areas as well as drug and/or alcohol abuse. Youth and parent concerns are discussed and needs identified.

If the teen displays signs of alcohol/drug experimentation, the Rosecrance counselor may recommend this program as the best course of action.

If the youth is identified as being at risk with alcohol/drug abuse or is currently displaying signs of addiction, another recommendation will be made, such as outpatient or inpatient treatment.