What is prescription drug abuse?: When you take a medication that was prescribed for someone else, or taking drugs prescribed to you for a different purpose or at a different dosage than intended.

What are the most commonly abused prescription drugs?: Opioids (such as Percocet and Vicodin), depressants (such as sleeping pills or Valium), and stimulants (such as Adderall).

Aren’t they safe?: Even though they are from a doctor, when taken incorrectly or by someone they are not prescribed to, they can have serious side effects because of varying dosages, forms, combinations, etc.

How dangerous are they?: Rx drugs are responsible for more overdose deaths (45%), than street drugs such as methamphetamine, cocaine, or heroin combined (39%).

How do pills lead to heroin use?: Prescription pain killers are an expensive habit to maintain. Many people switch to heroin as a cheaper alternative but is much stronger and can be extremely dangerous when mixed with other substances.

Who can I talk to?:
MA Youth Substance Abuse Helpline
(617)-661-3991
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1-(800)-273-TALK