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The PREVENTION COUNCIL Helping youth navigate life's challenges

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Visit us at preventioncouncil.org to learn more!



COVER PHOTO CREDIT ALL STARS CAMPERS AND STUDENTS



Our 2014 TUFF eNUFF 5K Obstacle Course Challenge was a mud-filled course with obstacles for nearly 500 participants to crawl under, hurdle over, wade through, and work together to the finish! It mirrored The Prevention Council's mission of helping youth navigate life's challenges. The muddy course was built by Heavy Equipment students at the BOCES Campus on Henning Rd. in Saratoga Springs.

Special thank you to our top sponsors: STAR 101.3, The Saratogian, Kohl's, Prospect Lending, Adirondack Extreme, Four Winds Hospital and Stewart's Shops. Along with Conboy & Manion, Jaeger & Flynn, Martin, Harding and Mazzotti, LLC, Priority One Payroll and Saratoga National Bank.

TUFF eNUFF 2015 will be held Saturday, June 6! Visit our website for sponsorship opportunities.

Our impact is made possible from the support of various federal, state and county grants. Schools and programs also support prevention education and outreach in Saratoga. Thank you to everyone who donated to The Prevention Council in 2014! Your support and generosity make our work possible!

2014 Funding Sources





The PREVENTION COUNCIL

Helping Youth Navigate Life's Challenges

2014 Accomplishments

Dear Friends,

Across Saratoga County The Prevention Council works to reduce the harm of addiction in our communities. By supporting parents, families, and schools we create environments that lessen risk and enhance resiliency in our youth. At its core, our programs are about life skills. Skills that are not just learned in the classroom but are observed and modeled through everyday life in our communities. We strive to bring awareness to parents and all adults in our communities of the vital role they play in communicating to young people how to live a healthy life. As we look ahead there is much to do. We invite you to keep up with us on Facebook and Twitter as new information and resources emerge daily. Please support our work through a donation. Your donations enable us to respond to requests for additional services in our local communities and school districts. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Janune Stuchun lanine Stuchin **Executive Director**



Through a partnership with the Saratoga Springs Police Department a permanent **prescription** drug drop-off box was established in the lobby of the police station in City Hall. The drop-off box allows anyone to dispose of their unwanted, unused or expired medications without having to wait for a drug take-back event.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG DROP OFF



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Strength in Numbers campaigns.

The Fact2Film festival media contest resulted in a student-made video played in local theaters and on social media. The Hometown Heroes campaign posters highlighted local families sharing their concerns and strategies to reduce underage drinking.

The work of the Coalition has been essential in educating students about good decisions by not only informing them of the devastating effects of drug and alcohol use and abuse, but even more importantly, by promoting positive behaviors and actions. We are a better school and community because of the efforts of a committed Coalition.

Dr. L. Oliver Robinson, Superintendent of Schools Shenendehowa Central School District





196 Sixth Graders Benefited from All

Stars Camp! For over 10 years The Prevention Council has partnered with Saratoga Springs School District to provide All Stars Camp for students transitioning from elementary to middle school. All Star Camp booster sessions continue for 7 months during the school year with lunch time and after school programs. 5th grade student families receive registration forms by mail in March. Slots for All Star Camp fills very quickly be sure to get your registration back ASAP!



The Community Coalition for Family Wellness (CCFW) had a phenomenal year of youth led engagement! Youth led panels provided much needed perspective regarding substance use. In 2014 the CCFW led a drugged driving social media campaign, implemented a transition to high school program and partnered with the SADD club's Above the Influence campaign.



R.A.I.S Our Voice! (Recovery Advocacy in Saratoga) was launched this past summer and has grown to over 150 people. Inspired by the film "The Anonymous People," shown in Saratoga, RAIS began with a conversation that our area needed a voice of recovery to reduce the stigma of addiction and promote wellness in long-term recovery by changing public perception of the disease and those affected by it. Learn more at: www.raisaratoga.org

The Saratoga Partnership for Prevention administered the Youth Behavior Survey at Saratoga Springs high school Survey findings were used to create a new campaign teaching "perception isn't reality" regarding substance use. Parent University continues to educate, spark dialogue and provide skills to assist parents in supporting their children

through the developmental years.



2014 Safe Spring was widely successful, reaching **2000 students!** Super Star, celebrated prevention and addiction speaker, spoke at 5 large assemblies in Mechanicville, Waterford-Halfmoon, Ballston Spa, Saratoga Springs and Shenendehowa High Schools.

"I just received a call from a parent of a student that wanted us to know what a connection Super Star made with him yesterday. He is one of our seniors that stayed past his usual dismissal time. His mom said that he came home raving about the presentation and then they had an hour long conversation about his future. She said that he has been refusing to talk about his future and that she cannot remember the last time they talked for an hour. Thank you for providing us with the opportunity.

> Christopher P. Scanlan, Principal Waterford-Halfmoon Junior/Senior High School

4,445 students across all 12 school districts in Saratoga County received prevention education

programming in 2014! Prevention education covered topics such as: underage drinking, substance use, life and social skills, bully prevention, distracted driving, media literacy and interpersonal skills. Learn more about our prevention education curricula by visiting our website.



This message, as well as other prevention education regarding gambling was made possible by a grant from NY Center for Problem Gambling. In 2014 we reached over a 1000 people through direct education, billboards, and social media.

stop bullying.

At left: Super Star with faculty and students of Waterford-Halfmoon. Below: Schuylerville elementary student learns how she can





Above: Prevention Specialist Amalia Currier teaches the impact of smoking on the lungs



In 2014, we provided:

- Victim Impact Panels for 817 **DWI and DWAI offenders** in collaboration with Saratoga County Youth Bureau and District Attorney's Office.
- + Court Mandated Substance Abuse Prevention Education classes for 82 teens and adults.
- + In-school Student Assistance Counseling and general counseling for **450 students** seeking mental health support services.
- + Reconnecting Youth classes for **88** at-risk students in Stillwater and South Glens Falls to increase self-esteem, communication skills and healthy decision making.
- + TIPS responsible beverage training for 24 bartenders and servers.
- **15 individuals** received opioid and heroin overdose prevention training.
- STOP DWI programs reached over 150 students in Stillwater, Waterford-Halfmoon and Saratoga Springs school districts.

"I cannot imagine my job as a guidance counselor without the help from the great counselors at The Prevention Council – they are responsive, experienced and caring. I always have confidence that the students I refer to them will be helped in a professional manner."

Cathy Roy, BSHS School Counselor