

# 2000 ANNUAL REPORT



*...for a drug-free community*

"When we seek to discover the best in others, we somehow bring out the best in ourselves."

- William Arthur Ward (1921-1994)

## OUR HISTORY

Prevention Partners, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of a healthy and drug-free community. We are entrusted by our community to support coalitions, schools, neighborhood groups, businesses, faith-based organizations, and other institutions as they work towards a common goal: keeping our community drug-free.

In 1994, Prevention Partners was created as a result of a merger between Greater Rochester Fights Back, Western New York Communities Against Drug Abuse, and Youth to Youth Rochester Area. An agency emerged, practicing the best in prevention strategies, delivered by a team of dedicated individuals.

Since the merger, Prevention Partners has become recognized locally and nationally as a leader in substance abuse prevention and positive youth development.

Stories of our growth and development follow. They are stories of how our organization helps combat the many challenges facing our families and communities each day. Take some time and DISCOVER the programs, the people, the impact of Prevention Partners.



Joseph M. Calabrese  
Executive Director

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DON TWIETMEYER

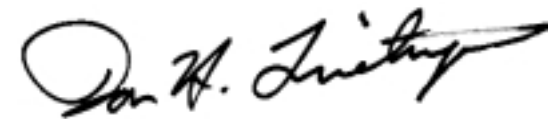
This past year was marked with several changes in our organization. We were pleased to "promote from within" when Joseph M. Calabrese, who previously served as Program Director, was named as Executive Director. Joe brings with him an intimate understanding of the organization, its programs and its staff, and has brought in many new ideas as well. We are extremely grateful for the years of service that Carol Coburn provided to the organization as the former Executive Director, and are pleased that she has agreed to continue to serve on the Honorary Board of Directors.

This past year also saw the first meeting of the Honorary Board of Directors, where business, community and government leaders with an interest in prevention came together to assist the Board with development activities and program suggestions. We have discovered the Honorary Board is the perfect format for bringing back dialogue on community problems and discussion of prevention activities to address those problems. We hope to hear more from the Honorary Board, and look forward to seeing the impact they are able to have.

We are proud of the fact that our organization's programs are being recognized in the community. Prevention Partners won the 2000 YSQC Organization Quality Award for our commitment of resources to promote quality services rendered to youth and families. The Youth Services Quality Council is a membership organization of both profit and non-profit organizations that provide youth services of all types.

Our fundraising activities took a new turn for 2000, as we looked for additional ways to raise needed funds for program activities. We conducted a direct mail fundraising campaign, which showed promise for future campaigns of this nature. Our golf tournament was very successful this past year, and will continue in the coming year. Please save the date now (June 27, 2001) so that you can participate in 2001. We are also looking into new, creative ways to raise funds, such as the use of on-line donations, as well as more traditional ways of raising funds.

As we face the future, we look to develop a strategic plan for the organization, with input from the Board, Honorary Board, staff, and other members of the community. The resulting plan will guide us as we move forward in the coming years.



Don Twietmeyer, President  
Board of Directors

## PREVENTION EXTENSION

In the fall of 1997, Prevention Partners launched the Prevention Extension with seed money provided by the Monroe County Legislature. This 28-foot mobile resource vehicle makes the rounds using a fun, interactive format for learning about the benefits of living a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.



Since its debut, the Prevention Extension has visited hundreds of sites (191 visits in 2000 alone) including schools, recreation centers, summer programs, health fairs, neighborhood events, and agencies. Available at no cost for visits in Monroe County, the vehicle provides educational programming year-round on such topics as poison prevention and prescription drugs, dealing with anger, alcohol myths, the tobacco industry, and many other important topics. With advance notice, presentations can even be tailor-made to fit the needs of a specific audience.



Watercolor by Erin Bennett

The Prevention Extension also provides pamphlets, brochures, and coloring and activity sheets. Participants can gain better communication skills, learn how to help a friend in need, and find out about resources in the community. Materials are available for all age groups as well as for the Spanish speaking community.

## RESOURCE CENTER AND LENDING LIBRARY

Prevention Partners Resource Center and Lending Library offers the largest variety of resources devoted to alcohol, tobacco and other drugs in the area. The resource center has videos, books, posters and more on a number of substance abuse related topics, which can be borrowed through our Lending Library. In addition, we have many other materials available for distribution (many in multiple quantities) at no cost. Open to the public, we encourage teachers, parents, agencies, and community organizations to use this valuable service. In 2000, Prevention Partners distributed in excess of 85,000 resources to the community.

---

## OUR AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

National Family Partnership (NFP) - State Partner  
Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) - Member  
Association of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers of NYS (ASAP-NYS)  
Association of New York State Youth Bureaus - Affiliate Member  
Region 2 Consortium of Alcohol & Substance Abuse Services  
Region 2 Prevention Network  
Youth Services Quality Council  
Monroe Council on Teen Pregnancy  
Monroe County Asset Core Team  
Smoking and Health Action Coalition of Monroe County  
Genesee Valley Crime Prevention Coalition

A Member of...



Association of Alcoholism  
and Substance Abuse  
Providers of New York State

## YOUTH TO YOUTH



Through our Youth to Youth (YZY) program, middle and high school students discover that they can get a natural high on life! Youth to Youth is a positive, peer prevention program with a goal of helping teens make the choice to be drug-free.

YZY originated in Columbus, Ohio by Youth to Youth International and came to the Rochester area in 1986. Since then, hundreds of schools and community groups have started clubs of their own. Currently, there are over 2,000 youth in New York State who have discovered this drug prevention program.

In 2000, there were 3 weekend conferences at local schools which each drew at least 200 students. At these conferences students listened to a variety of speakers, participated in family groups, attended workshops, and discovered lots of drug-free friends.

Our 13th Annual Rochester Area Youth Shine (R.A.Y.S.) Conference was held at Brockport Middle School and SUNY College at Brockport July 14th-16th. R.A.Y.S. drew a crowd of over 300 youth from all over Central and Western New York, as well as a large group from Virginia.

"It was a fun experience that I will never forget." - student who attended RAYS 2000



## BRIGHT FUTURES

**D**uring Bright Futures, the five-session program is  
**I**nstructed by high school students who  
**S**hare their leadership skills while  
**C**overing the Bright Futures abstinence  
**O**nly curriculum with young teens.  
**V**oices of middle school students  
**E**verywhere are a tribute to how much students  
**R**eally enjoy participating in Bright Futures!



In 2000, Bright Futures was implemented in five sites: Eastridge Jr. High, Spencerport Middle School, Honeoye Falls - Lima Middle School, Boys and Girls Club of Rochester, and Charles Settlement House. This important program was able to reach 863 students in Monroe County.

One of the goals of the Bright Futures program is to increase parent-child communication about sensitive topics. This goal was reached as many families discovered the advantage of completing the Parent-Child Homework Activities that are offered to enhance the classroom sessions.

"I liked how we were being taught by teenagers and not by adults. They could relate more." - 8th grade student

"Good way to talk about embarrassing topics that are hard to bring up." - parent of 8th grade student



## PSQUARED.ORG - HEALTHY CHOICES FOR YOUTHS AND ADULTS



Since Psquared.org went live on the web in October 1999, hundreds of Rochesterians have discovered its many worthwhile features. Psquared.org is full of comprehensive information and activities for parents, youth, and community members alike. Psquared.org provides the tools for better parent-child communication, and engages viewers of all ages with interactive activities. Psquared.org is the only site of its kind in this area, and is a place where many local people find answers to their questions.

To date, we have had more than 1000 registered users access Psquared.org's drug prevention resources and activities. The vast majority of those who register are within our targeted age groups (teens ages 10-17 and their parents), and are from the Rochester area.

To maintain Psquared.org's reputation as a one-of-a-kind resource, improving and updating the site became a must in the year 2000. As a result, Psquared.org evolved in many significant ways. A news ticker was added to the main page to keep our visitors up-to-date on all of our events and announcements, three new abstinence-related games were added to the "Dating Database," an interactive events calendar was constructed, and the way our visitors register was improved. We also added a "Shop to Give" feature through GreaterGood.com, and an online donation capability in conjunction with Helping.org. (We have the talented folks at AZtek Computer Solutions to thank for all of these additions.) These features serve to either promote and support our programs or to help teenagers and their parents communicate more effectively.

As we look to 2001, we are excited to know that there are many possibilities for the expansion and promotion of Psquared.org. Partnering with M&T Bank, Prevention Partners will launch its new bumper sticker campaign, "The Big Stick-Up," where thousands of bumper stickers will promote the web site as a place on the web that can help keep families drug-free. We hope this campaign will be the start of an aggressive marketing campaign with lasting impact on the Greater Rochester community.



## YEAR 2000 REGISTRATION STATISTICS

252 Youth   4   528 Adult   4   518 Female   4   262 Male   4   516 from Monroe County   4   264 not from Monroe County

## OUR DONORS, FUNDERS, AND CONTRIBUTORS

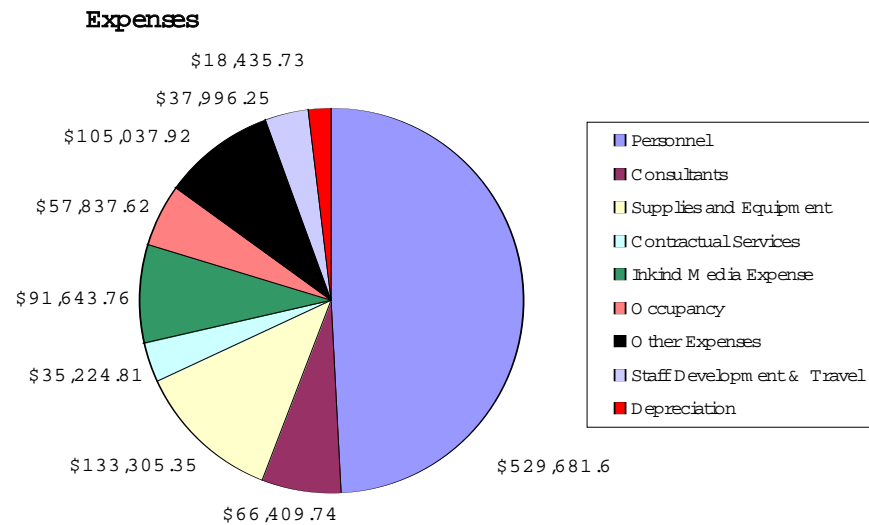
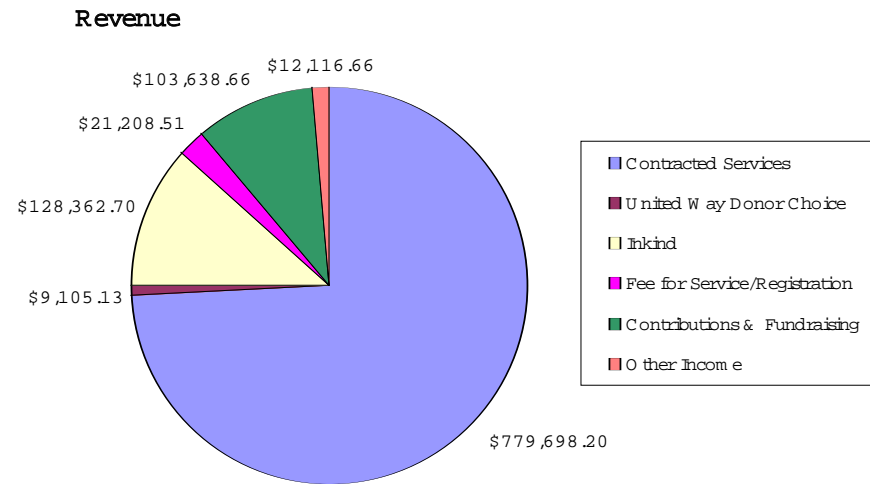
Ruth Accorso	Joe Crestuk	Michelle Hare	Sue Melech	Nance & Gregory Phillips
Ad Council of Rochester	Culligan Water	Carl Hatch-Feir	Bob Melech	Planned Parenthood
Admar Supply Co.	Lisa Curtin	Health Association	Mengel, Metzger, Barr, & Co.	Karen Polino
Rufus Agnew	CVS	Margaret Henderson	Alison Miller	QUAD A
Honorable James Alesi	Heather Danick	Chris Hengstler	Sandy Mitchell	Lynn Quinn
Al Sigl Center	Sandy Davison	Heveron and Heveron	MJ Mechanical Services, Inc.	Sandy Ranalli
Marge Ambuske	Maria DeJesus	Village of Hilton	Marilyn and Mark Molyneaux	Major Robert Reel
American Red Cross	Maureen Dell	Tom Hohler	County of Monroe	Sherron Richardson
Vincent Anzalone	Delottie & Touche	Rosanne Holbrook	Monroe County Department of	Town of Riga
Donna Austin	Delphi Drug and Alcohol Council	Holley Central Schools	Health	John Riley
AZtek Computer Solutions	Peter & Susan DeStefano	Pamela & David Hromalik	Monroe County Department of	RMI
Robert M. Ball	Brett DeWaal	Suzanne Hullfish	Mental Health	City of Rochester
Russell W Bandemer	Discovery Huther-Dolye	Pat Hutchison	Monroe County Fair Association	Rochester Apparel
Daniel Bennett	John DiTullio	Ibero-American Action League	Monroe County School Boards	Rochester Gas & Electric
Erin Bennett	The Dome Arena	Integrated Promotions	Assoc.	Rochester Philharmonic
Linda Bennett	Dr. Andrew Doniger	Irondequoit Youth Bureau	Monroe County Sheriff's	Orchestra
Jerry Bennett	Peggy Doody	Jay Advertising	Department	Rochester Police Department
Alan Bertch	Kevin Doran	Craig Johnson	Monroe County STOP-DWI	Rochester Safety Council
Gerald L Betteridge	Mary Beth and Dan Dreyer	Tina Jones	Monroe County Youth Bureau	Rochester Teachers Association
Joe Biehler	Becky Duino	K-Mart	Molye Chevrolet	Jim & Kathi Root
Big Oak Driving Range	Eaglevale Golf Course	Keenan's	Gwen Mott	Rush-Henrietta Central Schools
Birthright	Eastman Kodak	Debbie Kennedy	Gail Mulkeen	John Ryan
Bishop Kearney High School	Eckerd Drugs	Kenton Advertising Co.	NCADD-RA	Dick & Jan San Angelo
Brad Bliss	Dottie Elias	Kids Adjusting Through Support	Newark Central Schools	Saperston and Day, PC
James Blocker	Dale Fair	Cindy Knowles	New York Agency	Stan Sarat
Jonni Bocchino	Fairport Central Schools	John Kraushaar	Kim Nguyen	William Saunders
BOCES 2	Fairport Chemical Advisory	Judy Kreiger	NYS National Guard	Larry Schongar
Honorable Anthony Bonadio	Council	Kriterium, LLC	NYS Office of Alcohol and	Kathy Schongar
Bill Bowers	Finger Lakes Community College	Loraine Krupnicki	Substance Abuse Services	Gregory & Pamela Schwartz
CADCA	Fox Rochester	Susan Kurz	NYS Office of Children and	Honorable John R. Schwartz
Joseph M. Calabrese	Linda Fraser	David Large	Family Services	Seneca Park Zoo
Joseph G. Calabrese	Gardner Printing Services	La-Z-Boy Furniture	NYS Police	Lucy Shealy
Canandaigua National Bank	Genesee Country Museum	LeChase Construction	Jean Newman	Joel Shehadi
CSM Judd Cappon	Genesee Valley Parent Magazine	Joan LeRoy	Bernice Norsen	Vincent P Siriami, Jr
Larry & Connie Carnes	Genesee Valley PTA	Lifetime Health	Jeff Norsen	Ruth Smith
Faye Casey	Joe Genier	Peter & Jay LoMaglio	Bill Ort	Pat Soike
Center for Youth Services	Jolene Gervase	Lee Loomis	Suellen Orrico-Saitta	South Wedge Planning
Carol Chiavaroli	GEVA Theater	M & T Bank	Rick Page	Committee
Christ Clarion Church	Annie Giullari	MA Services/Pullano & Co.	Psychex, Inc.	Spencerport Central Schools
Barbara Christensen	Mary Giullari	Connie Maloney	Town of Perinton	Linda Spiegel
Dave Christensen	Tom Golisano	Stephanie Mason	Joyce Perkins	Vince Stanley
Mary Cicotta	Golden Tans	Dennis Masters	Chester & Mary Perkins	Jodie Stepro
Tom Coburn	Angel Gozalez	Bonnie Maute	Daniel Perna	St. Vincent's Press
Carol Coburn	Town of Greece	David McCracken	Pittsford Central Schools	Colleen Stone
Jerry Coliabo	Gymnastics Training Center of	Linda McNamee	Pittsford School Community	Summerville Grille
Carol Ann Collins	Rochester	Erin McRae	Partnership Council	Shawn Taylor
Comptrol, Inc.	Croft Hangartner	Medeva Pharmaceutical	Pittsford Youth Service	Tobin & Associates

## OUR DONORS, FUNDERS, AND CONTRIBUTORS, CONTINUED

Bob Tobin  
 Dawn Tobin  
 Tops Markets  
 Maria Torres  
 Don Twietmeyer  
 United Church of Pittsford  
 United States Dept. of Health and Human Services  
 United States Department of Juvenile Justice  
 United Way of Greater Rochester  
 Sherrill Vasioek  
 Dave Velasquez  
 Anthony & Connie Viggiani  
 Mel Walczak  
 Bob Wale  
 Theodore Walker  
 Cookie & Larry Waller  
 Wegmans  
 Karen & Robert Weigand  
 Peggy Weston Byrd  
 WHEC - TV 10  
 Jon & Robyn Whittaker  
 Steve Wickmark  
 Winslow Elementary School  
 Tracy Wilkes  
 Louis Wilson, Jr.  
 Allen G. Wood  
 WROC - TV 8  
 Susanne Yarnall  
 Honorable Robert Zinck  
 Michael & Audrey Zuber  
 Jacqueline Zuber

We apologize if you feel you should have been included in this list and were not. If you would like to be included in our next printing, please call (716) 288-2800 ext. 18.

## YEAR 2000 REVENUE AND EXPENSES



Revenue grew from \$925,663 in 1999 to \$1,054,130 in 2000. Many thanks to all who supported us in 2000 to make our programs possible!

Prevention Partners, Inc. is a non-profit agency funded in part by OJUDP, OAPP, NYS OASAS, NYS Office of Children and Family Services, Monroe County, City of Rochester, United Way Donor Option (#1908), donations, and fundraising events.

## OUR HONORARY BOARD

Hanif Abdul-Wahid  
 Honorable James Alesi  
 Honorable William Benet  
 J. Chamaine Bennett  
 Honorable Karla Boyce  
 William J. Brongo  
 Carol Coburn  
 Tom Coburn  
 Kenneth Dean  
 Donna Dedee  
 Honorable Jack Doyle  
 Chief Robert Duffy  
 Lou Ferrari  
 June Fisher  
 Linda Fraser  
 Honorable Lynda Garner Goldstein  
 Tom Golisano  
 Phillip Goodwin  
 Brian Hendrick  
 Craig Johnson  
 Honorable William Johnson, Jr.  
 John Kelly  
 Cindy Knowles  
 John Kraushaar  
 Jeff Krywy  
 David Large  
 Honorable Tracy Logel  
 Lee Lomis  
 Becky McCorry  
 Sandy Mitchell  
 Honorable Kevin Murray  
 Honorable Dennis Pelletier  
 Honorable Howard Relin  
 Honorable Raymond Santirocco  
 Honorable John R. Schwartz  
 Beth Sears  
 Jules Smith  
 Dr. Norman Wetterau  
 Theresa Woodson  
 Honorable Robert Zinck

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
(April 2000-April 2001)

Don Twietmeyer, President  
Jim Mulley, Vice President  
Joe Biehler, Treasurer  
Carol Ann Collins, Co-Secretary  
Sandy Ranalli, Co-Secretary

Amber Callahan  
CSM Judd Cappon  
Maria DeJesus  
Joe Genier  
Karyn Herman  
Paula Howk  
Rick Page  
John Riley  
Leah Rodriguez  
Bob Tobin  
Robert Wale

STAFF DIRECTORY

Administration:

Joseph M. Calabrese, Executive Director ext. 26  
Marilyn Molyneaux, Executive Assistant ext. 23  
Barb Christensen, Director of Community Programs ext. 11  
Cheryl Perkins, Director of Youth Programs ext. 13  
Cookie Waller, Teen Court Coordinator ext. 14

Program Specialists:

Jerry Bennett, Special Projects/Prevention Extension ext. 12  
Priscilla Betteridge, Suburban/Rural Communities ext. 25  
Hector Camacho Jr., Youth to Youth ext. 21  
Jenna Earley, Prevention Partners Youth Network ext. 19  
Adrienne Frank, Public Awareness/Webmaster ext. 18  
Annie Giullari, Resource Center ext. 28  
Michelle LoMaglio, Bright Futures ext. 27  
Michelle Sulik, Bright Futures ext. 16  
Jake Waters, City Neighborhoods ext. 29

(716) 288-2800

Off-Site Staff:

Not Me, Not Now  
Alison Miller (716) 428-4293  
Michael Shamon (716) 428-2380  
Teen Court (716) 428-4186

Consultants:

Mary Beth Dreyer, Youth Programs  
Michelle Hare, Teen Court

AmeriCorps Members:

Diane Navarro DeHond, Resource Assistant  
Marietta Gamble, Teen Court

Email: [drugslie@psquared.org](mailto:drugslie@psquared.org)

Web: [www.psquared.org](http://www.psquared.org)

Fax: (716) 288-2847



PREVENTION PARTNERS, INC.  
One Mustard Street, Suite 400  
Rochester, NY 14609-6980

MISSION STATEMENT

To assist and partner with the community to develop, implement, and sustain strategies that promote healthy choices related to alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, and associated wellness issues.

## PREVENTION PARTNERS STAFF DIRECTORY

**Jerry Bennett** - As a college student at St. John Fisher College, I spent my summers in San Diego driving trucks for a moving company. As a VISTA Volunteer working with migrants and seasonal farmworkers in upstate New York, I found myself driving pickup trucks down many dusty roads. Now, as the Special Projects Coordinator at Prevention Partners, I find myself driving our Prevention Extension Resource Vehicle (RV), and marketing this 28' mobile classroom in my capacity as the "RV booking agent." I've discovered most of the schools and recreation sites across the county - while trying to avoid as many narrow, one-way streets as possible.

On many of these RV outings, you may see Vince sitting in the front passenger seat (without his seatbelt buckled!). He's a puppet - and enjoys talking to children about good/bad choices, the importance of friends, and why moms and dads can be really good listeners. Vince discovers these good traits only when the kids in the puppet-show audience help him solve many daily living problems.

**Priscilla Betteridge** - As a Program Specialist at Prevention Partners, I am part of the effort to work with people through programs, coalitions, and asset building initiatives. I get the chance to help others gain knowledge and support, in order to promote drug-free communities. I have discovered evidence of our agency's work in my own neighborhood, and feel that other neighborhoods could also benefit from our services. The more we're known, the more good we can do.

**Joe Calabrese** - Through my work at Prevention Partners, I have discovered that what youth really need to succeed are relationships. Every success we have had at Prevention Partners has come from a commitment of human resources, the people that work here and the people we help inspire. At Prevention Partners, we discover every day that by working together with youth, we achieve more than we could ever do alone.

**Hector Camacho Jr.** - I discovered the Youth to Youth program at Prevention Partners just a few short years ago. After my first experience at a Youth to Youth conference, I wanted to learn more and be as involved as possible. I began by restarting the Dansville YZY group, and eventually getting hired here at Prevention Partners. My experience here has been wonderful, and I enjoy my new involvement with the YZY program and the great staff here at Prevention Partners.

**Barb Christensen** - Over the last several years it has been my pleasure to help our local communities discover and build on their strengths as they develop plans to address alcohol, tobacco and other drug issues. Research has allowed us to keep pace with the changing needs of our youth, families, schools, neighborhoods and communities. This ongoing research has offered not only an opportunity for growth in the field of prevention but for my own personal growth as well.

**Diane Navarro DeHond** - As an AmeriCorps member and Resource Assistant at Prevention Partners, I have discovered the creative energy in being a part of a team moving toward a common goal. Prevention reveals itself to you in stages, like peeling an onion one layer at a time. A teacher may bring up a topic about peer pressure, a coach may reinforce good self-esteem, a friend may spark your interest a certain type of music, a brother may entice you to help them with their homework, and a parent could warn you that drugs aren't cool and can lead to death. I like to encourage children in their interests, and to reinforce drug-free living and success.

**Jenna Earley** - Eight years ago, I discovered a unique organization that allowed me to be myself, meet other people, and have tons of drug-free fun. Youth to Youth is an organization that has had a profound influence on me over these past eight years. Youth to Youth has challenged me and helped make me the leader I am today.

In January of 2001, I took a position as a Program Specialist here at Prevention Partners. The Prevention Partners Youth Network (PPYN) is a group that brings students together from three different Prevention Partners programs: Bright Futures, Youth to Youth, and Teen Court. Together, these teens act as spokespeople for their programs, helping spread the message of healthy life choices.



**2000-2001 Prevention Partners Staff and AmeriCorps Members:**

Back row (l-r): Diane Navarro DeHond, Marietta Gamble, Priscilla Betteridge, Adrienne Frank, Jenna Earley, Annie Giullari, Jerry Bennett, Michelle Sulik, Cheryl Perkins, Marilyn Molyneaux, and Joe Calabrese.

Front row (l-r): Barb Christensen, Michelle Hare, Jake Waters, Michelle LoMaglio, Cookie Waller, and Hector Camacho, Jr.

Missing from picture: Alison Miller and Michael Shanon.

**Adrienne Frank** -It didn't take me long to discover that Prevention Partners was the kind of place where I'd like to start my career. Developing Psquared.org, handling media relations, writing grants, running advertising campaigns, designing brochures and advertisements, and marketing programs has made this position both challenging and enjoyable for me. It has been my pleasure to be a part of the Prevention Partners team.

**Arnie Giullari** -While working in the resource center as an AmeriCorps member and later as the Resource Center Program Specialist, I discovered the sheer number of resources available to keep families and communities drug-free and healthy. Providing drug prevention materials to local residents, area schools, and other organizations helps get the prevention message into our communities, and has been a very rewarding and challenging experience for me.

**Michelle LoVaglio** - As part of the Bright Futures program for the past two years, I have discovered that not only do I give something of value to the students the program reaches, but they also give so much to me. Discovery is so much a part of the Bright Futures program. The program allows the students to discover their own voice and how they can make a positive impact on their peers.

**Alison Miller** - I work off-site at the County Office Building with the Not Me, Not Now teen pregnancy prevention program. My role is to discover ways to incorporate Not Me, Not Now materials into existing curriculum and programs at schools and community sites. I also coordinate other aspects of the program including parent workshops, high risk youth initiatives, kid newsletters, and the Kids Advisory Board - a group assembled to provide feedback on all media components of the Not Me, Not Now campaign. Lastly, I am part of a team who corresponds with other educators throughout the country to bring Not Me, Not Now to their community.

**Marilyn Molyneaux** -Back in 1991 when I joined the staff of Youth To Youth, I never imagined that the agency would evolve into what Prevention Partners has become today. Over the years I have seen staff members come and go, and the focus and programs of Prevention Partners broaden greatly. But, I have discovered that one thing always remains the same: the unity of the people who work here. Whether they are out in the community every day, in the classrooms, driving the Prevention Extension, or quietly working behind the scenes, I have discovered that Prevention Partners is a place where all pull together as one. That unity is what makes this agency so special.

**Cheryl Perkins** - As the Director of Youth Programs at Prevention Partners, I have discovered that when given the right information and skills, youth will make healthy choices. Our programs help youth discover their potential by remaining abstinent and drug-free. As they say, "knowledge is power."

**Michelle Sulik** - Bright Futures helps middle school students discover the tools they need to postpone sexual involvement. High school students discover their own leadership skills as they present this five-session program. As I work with this program, I know I have discovered a very worthwhile cause!

**Cookie Waller** - My position as Coordinator of the Rochester Teen Court program has unearthed many discoveries about the juvenile justice system. Most teens really do want to do the right thing, and be recognized for their accomplishments as well as accept responsibility for their mistakes. We are joined by over 80 fellow youth courts statewide and over 600 nationwide in our continuous efforts to reduce the likelihood of recidivism. I have discovered that positive peer pressure is an innovative and powerful tool in combating the youth crime that plagues us all.

**Jake Waters** - In my years of working in the community and doing prevention workshops for youth, I have discovered that prevention is the way to go. Although intervention is important, I have found that if we give kids the tools they need at an early age, they are able to make better choices. I think there needs to be more funds available for prevention, so that measures can be taken while a child's learning ability is high. Kids are a lot smarter than we give them credit for.

## THANK YOU

Interns : Jolene Gervase, Jennifer Goodrich, Tara Fisher, Mary Russello, LaToya Lee

Prevention Partners Staff and AmeriCorps Members

Special thanks to Carol Coburn, Prevention Partners Executive Director from 1996-2000. Carol left Prevention Partners this past June to pursue other interests. Her legacy with our agency endures. We are especially thankful as Carol continues to be a part of Prevention Partners through our Honorary Board.

In addition, Prevention Partners lost the skills of other staff members in 2000. Thank you to Juanita Alvarado, Mike DiGiovanni, Mary Beth Dreyer, and Roxanne Wood. Each made a special contribution to the development of the agency.