

**Regional Prevention Partnership
Presentation Outline
March 11, 2019
Engaging Youth In Prevention**

RPP Grantee Community: Newport

Person completing form:

- Sierra Ruth sierra.ruth@neklsvt.org (802)624-0446
- Allyson Howell allyson.howell@neklsvt.org

Name of youth prevention group/project:

- Dover Y2Y
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orleans and Northern Essex Counties
- Gay Straight Alliance
- Forever 21 Tobacco Prevention

Description of project:

Helping youth and young adults make healthy life choices, and become youth advocates for themselves, peers, and community, around substance abuse prevention.

Partnering Organizations:

- Dover Youth 2 Youth (New Hampshire, Burlington)
- GSA Group from North Country Junior High School
- Newport Police Department
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of Vermont.
- North Country Supervisory Union
- Orleans Central Supervisory Union
- Essex North Supervisory Union

Geographic area/ Supervisory Union:

- North Country Supervisory Union
- Orleans Central Supervisory Union
- Essex North Supervisory Union

How long has the project been happening

- 3 years

Was there a defining event or crisis that sparked the interest of youth in prevention work?

- Our communities were rocked by the opioid crisis and it became aware that we had a major substance abuse issue in our area.

Number of youth and ages/grades

- Over 500 Kids
- 6th-12th grade

How often does this group meet?

- 5 days a week at different locations

Recruitment Strategies

- A collaboration with school facilitators, guidance counselors, and community members with all members of the RPP team of Newport.

Promotion of group and activities:

- Table at events
- Media (Paper/Radio)
- Social Media
- Presentations for different organizations

How is success measured?

- Surveys
- Partnering school's approval and plans to engage in program in continuing years
- Number of youth served in total

Youth leadership and adult support:

- Sierra Ruth
- Allyson Howell
- Sunny Naughton
- School facilitators/ Guidance Counselors
- Law Enforcement

Formal Leadership development opportunities

- Youth Mental First Aid Trainings
- RPP Engaging Youth in Prevention Training
- DITEP Training
- Strengthening Families Training

Engagement Strategies

- Youth complete a activism project focused on their communities

Retention Strategies

- The RPP bought 8 additional Dover Youth 2 Youth Toolkits to distribute to the schools we work with so that facilitators can teach this curriculum on their own for the years to come.
- Each school was provided a supply kit to accompany the Dover Youth 2 Youth toolkit, so that schools would not have to pay for supplies out of the school budget.

Celebration/Awards/Events

- Presentation by Chief Disanto from Newport Police Department (Student activism project success)
- Signage around school and recreational property about zero smoking policy

Challenges:

- Dispersing all programs and information in all three of supervisory unions at all times, but we always manage to get it done through teamwork and cooperation.