YES Summer Program

By Rachel Mahar

The Prevention program hosted their Youth Enrichment Series (YES) again this summer from July through August. This year we had the pleasure of hosting the program at the Edgerton Recreational Center with youth ages 12 – 17 that reside in the city of Rochester.

YES provided twelve youth with the opportunity for positive socialization activities while decreasing risky behaviors that can lead to substance use, delinquency and drop-out, teen pregnancy and violence. The program uses a collaborative and comprehensive approach in providing information and education to program participants.

Long-range objectives of YES include: increased commitment to school and community; increased feelings of self-worth; and increased social skills.

To encourage commitment to the five weeks of educational programming and because the majority of the adolescents come from low-income families, there is no cost for participation in the program.

During the course of this year’s YES program, the youth participated in the evidence-based curriculum, ‘Too Good for Violence,” (TGFV).

TGFV is designed to benefit youth by providing needed education in social and emotional competencies and by reducing risk factors and building protective factors that affect youth.

The TGFV program uses interactive games, role-play, visual aids, and fun activities to introduce, develop, and reinforce the social-emotional skills students need to build positive relationships and make healthy choices. Students learn to set goals, make good decisions, manage emotions, and effectively communicate.

Youth practiced using these skills to self-regulate, peacefully resolve conflict, and respond to bullying situations.

Based on group attendance and participation, adolescents were also able to attend field trips to AMF bowling, Bayview YMCA, Seabreeze, and Darien Lake.

At the completion of the YES program, a celebratory lunch was held and each participant received a book bag filled with school supplies and gift cards.
The participants in this summer’s YES program also completed a community service project with the House of Mercy. The House of Mercy is a homeless shelter and advocacy center in Rochester that operates 24/7. The youth spent their time learning about the poverty in Rochester and also volunteered their time by completing tasks for the shelter. Each youth also kept a journal detailing their thoughts on the experience.
A HUGE thank you to Abbey and Erica for being amazing team players while we have been short staffed!

Thank you to The Rochester Female Charitable Society for their generous donation to our YES summer program.

Prevention is excited to be back at the Douglass Campus. 2018 makes 10 years the program has been providing services at the school.

Key Phone Numbers

211/LIFE LINE 211 or 275-5151 (275-2700 TTY*)
Alternatives for Battered Women Hotline 232-7353 (232-1741 TTY*)
City/County Drug Helpline (24 hrs) 275-0505 (275-2700 TTY*)
Community Place of Greater Rochester (prevention services, food/rental assistance, disability services, aging services, etc.) 288-0021
FACIT (Family Crisis Intervention Team) 428-7183
Jordan at Threshold 454-7530
Liberty Resources Behavioral Health Clinic 410-3370
Monroe County Child Abuse Hotline 461-5690
Monroe County Emergency Housing Unit (8:00-3:00) 753-6687
After 3:00 442-1742
National Poison Control Locator 1-800-222-1222 (273-3854 TTY*)
Police/Fire Emergency 911 (Also TTY*)
Rape Crisis/Safe Center Hotline 546-2777 (546-7582 TTY*)

Prevention Staff

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Abbey Stuckless Prevention Coordinator
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Erica Colon, BSW
Drug Prevention Counselor
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"A hundred years from now, it will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of house I lived in, how much money I had in the bank ... but the world may be a better place because I made a difference in the life of a child."
Forest Witcraft