

Postponing Sexual Involvement

Division of Adolescent Medicine
Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati, Ohio

A United Way Agency

Schools Commit \$30,000

As of June 20, 2001, 16 schools in Cincinnati Public have committed \$20 per pupil to pay for PSI teen leader presentations in the 2001-02 school year. Most of the money comes from the buildings' Safe and Drug-Free Schools fund. The vote of confidence from principals, Instructional Learning Team (ILT) Chairs, and Local School Decision-Making Committee (LSDMC) Chairs marks the first time in 11 years that local school building leaders have placed a dollar value on the teen leaders' instruction. Schools that pay for PSI include: Bramble, Cheviot, Dater, Eastwood, Jacobs Center, Kirby Road, Midway, Parham, Roberts, Rockdale, Shroder, South Avondale, Whittier, Winton Place, Mt. Airy, and Mt. Washington.

New fee-for-service

For the 2001-02 year, PSI bills schools \$20 per pupil. This represents 20% of actual costs. PSI's "free-of-charge" policy can no longer sustain the program after 11 years of grants. Join the team and support PSI with school funds. It's

the only way to get it in your Cincinnati Public School. **November 1, 2001 is the last day** to purchase teen leader presentations for second semester. Call Kevin Stinson (513) 475-7132, or the PSI Office (513) 872-8948.

Weekly Reader Features PSI

The September 2001 "Human Sexuality Supplement" of the nationally distributed secondary school periodical *Current Health 2* features PSI teen leaders Lance Willoughby (SCPA '02), Kamillah Hallums (Western Hills '02), Kyle Kuznof (Walnut Hills '02), and Asia Binford (Hughes '01) in an article on Sexual Abstinence.

PSI Teaching Internship

Four Seniors from Hughes Center's High School for Teaching Professions completed a 9-month internship by teaching PSI twice a week and developing a powerpoint software presentation for teen leader applicants. It is currently posted on the PSI website. D'Juanice Pullins, Krushawnda Thrasher, Shannon Nixson, and Christian Smith inaugurated the internship for school credit under the supervision of Hughes faculty member Mary Pat Key.

School Achievement Award to SCPA

Five PSI teen leaders from the School for Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA) won PSI's Award for their teamwork, adjustments to feedback, heavy PSI scheduling, and teaching skills. SCPA Social Worker Elyssa Pogue led the group, all of whom are returning to PSI in 2001-02 as juniors and seniors.

Profiles In Courage

The Cincinnati Enquirer recently profiled PSI Teen Leaders Peter Sanders (Withrow, '01) and Dante Dunn (Hughes '01) in a positive light, against a backdrop of negative profiles in the Cincinnati community. The local newspaper honored Peter, a resident of Avondale, as a Golden Galaxy Award winner. It honored Dante as a survivor from Over-the-Rhine on his way to Ohio State University on full scholarship. Peter and Dante were PSI teen leaders for two years. Both credit PSI as an important part of their rich lives.

Postponing Sexual Involvement
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United Way Partners with PSI

United Way & Community Chest gave \$116,000 to PSI in FY 02 as part of the *Thriving Children Vision Council's* allocation.

PSI's Mission is to create positive peer pressure and social pressure to postpone sexual intercourse.

So Long Mr. Davis & Demetrius

After 10 years, PSI Outreach Coordinator Anthony D. Davis, MEd, MCP leaves PSI as part of a reduction in workforce. Mr. Davis conducted his final PAYOFFSM teen leader training workshops for Native Americans in Williston, North Dakota; Milford (Ohio) Schools; and Three Square Music Foundation in Cincinnati.

After 5 years as a PSI teen leader, subcontractor, and Americorps/Public Ally intern, Demetrius Thomas, age 20, leaves PSI to pursue his goals of attending college, church leadership, African mission and becoming a computer technology director.

Their mark on PSI is etched in hundreds of photographs, teaching records, teen recruits, and the staff.

Advisory Committee

- Shelia Becker, Chair
- Thomas Gougeon
- Gail Slap, M.D.
- Joseph L. Rauh, M.D.
- Reginald Tsang, M.D.

The following are new members of the PSI Advisory Committee:

- Giselle Mack, teacher, Shroder High School, term ending May 2001
- Randy Compton, teacher, Roberts Paideia Academy
- Kevin Stinson, Cincinnati Public Schools
- Nicole Black, United Way Project Blueprint

Evaluations 2000-01

Young teen births in Cincinnati were stable at 276 in 2000. There were 276 teen births in 1999. This represents a 29% decline among 12-16 year-old teen births since 1993. Nationwide, there has been a 20% decrease in the birth rate for girls aged 15-19. Some of the reasons for the decline include less sex and more contraception. Our country still has the highest rates of teen pregnancies and births among comparable countries. Some teens may also be having sex earlier.

Parent surveys show 77% support PSI (17% are neutral). Ninety-two percent think it will help a child postpone sex. Less than 0.5 % of guardians exercised their option to withdraw their child from PSI. Parents comment: "I think it's really good that they have a program like this. When I was young they handed me a book about your period and that's not all it's about." "Education portion is good and complements

what my daughter learned at home..., church and school. Completes the cycle."

Teacher Surveys show 81% agree that teen leaders were well-prepared, and 95% recommend continuation. "These students have lots of questions that parents are hesitant to discuss and students are hesitant to ask at home. But here, among their own, they open up." (Sixth Grade Health Educator) "Besides some of us health teachers, this might be the only source that students have concerning the practice of abstinence." (Mike Mason, Seventh Grade Health Teacher, Dater)

Record Number of PSI Sessions

In the 2000-01 school year, 76 teen leaders taught over 900 sessions to 4,100 students at 43 schools. This is a 12% increase versus FY 2000. Special groups of students at CPS Satellites STEP, Roeller & Project Succeed hosted PSI for the first time.

Cash Contributors, 2000-01

- United Way & Community Chest
- The Health Foundation of Greater Cincinnati
- March of Dimes, Southwestern Ohio Chapter
- Hamilton County Department of Jobs and Services
- Public Allies of Cincinnati
- The Cooperative Society
- National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy
- Cincinnati Adolescent Health Center, Inc.
- Girl Scout Troop, 169
- Individual donors

Support Staff

- Christopher Kraus, JD, MTS
- Allison White
- Angie Allendorf

Want to be a PSI Teen Leader?
Go to: www.cincinnatichildrens.org/psi
for teen leader applications and other news.