

Rural Texas Success: Peer to Peer Prevention Education

Center for Safe Communities and Schools –
Texas State University


Ruby Moore, Youth Event Coordinator

Jennifer Steele, Program Director




CSCS Goals

- Prevent youth tobacco use
- Increase cessation among Texans
- Eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke
- Reduce tobacco use in diverse and special populations to eliminate disparities




CSCS Guiding Principles

- Youth-Adult Partnerships
- Community Building
- Learning & Teaching
- Leadership & Advocacy




Objectives:

- Resources or Recipient: How do you view youth?
- Overcoming Obstacles
- Reaching students in every region



Your Experiences

- Who are you?
- Where do you come from?
- How is your program / agency currently involved with youth?
- How would you rate yourself / your agency?



Resource or Recipient

- Inventory of Adult Attitudes and Behaviors
- Rate each statement 1 thru 9
 - › 1 = NEVER my approach to youth
 - › 9 = ALWAYS my approach to youth
- Transfer your rating to the appropriate line
- Total columns



Your Role as Co-Pilot


- Enjoy and Respect Youth
- Thrive in a creative / chaotic environment
- Not afraid of controversy or advocacy
- Well informed of past efforts / successes



Overcoming Obstacles


- Adult fears / reservations
- Youth fears / reservations
 - * Judgment
 - * Failure
 - * Rejection
 - * Boring
 - * Bossy
 - * Being a burden
 - * Stubborn adults
 - * No fun
 - * Trust
 - * Patience (lack of)

*NOT BEING TAKEN SERIOUSLY!




Reasons to Maximize Youth Involvement

- Role Models / Peer Educators
- Provide reality check in diagnosing problems
- Challenge conventional thinking
- Influence parents / other adults
 - Attract news media
 - Capture attention of decision makers




What do you do with youth?

- Youth VS Adults
- No one likes being bored!
- “Adult” or “Professional” conference




6 Keys to Working with PEOPLE

- Knowledge
- Experience
- Dialogue
- Skills
- Ownership
- FUN!




KNOWLEDGE

- Know the facts
- Stir Emotion, Evoke Passion: WHY should this be important to me?
- Set the Stage
- Passion into Action!




EXPERIENCE

- Theory into Reality
- Creative, hands-on
- 25 / 75 % Split



DIALOGUE

- Open, Honest, Direct
- Challenge participants to critically evaluate the situation
- Process the issue and what can be done



SKILLS

- How does this benefit me?
- Why do I need to learn this?
- When am I ever going to use this in life?
- Sharing what you learn




OWNERSHIP

- Social Development Theory:
 - Skills, Opportunity and Recognition
- People will support what they help create
- Brings excitement, energy, accountability, responsibility and desire to succeed



FUN!

- MUST
- HAVE
- FUN!
- Activities, Games, Interaction, Competition



7 R's to Remember

- Respect
- Role
- Responsibility
- Relationship
- Reward
- Results
- Re-program



Contact:

Ruby Moore,
Youth Events Coordinator

Jennifer Steele,
Program Manager

rm72@txstate.edu

js42@txstate.edu

www.myspace.com/TxTeenAmbassador

Facebook: T.X. Ambassador

Center for Safe Communities and Schools
Texas State University

www.cscs.txstate.edu

877-304-2727