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Teenagers attend teambuilding training

Submitted story

Forty area high school teens who are committed to a drug free, alcohol free and abstinent lifestyle attended a two-day training session at the Department of Jobs and Family Services.

These teens from Clyde, Lakota, Ross, St. Joseph Central Catholic and Woodmore are a part of The Link. The Link is a group of young teens who discuss and learn about topics that affect young people and how the choices we make today influence our future. These topics include the risks of early sexual involvement, tobacco use, alcohol and other drugs and violence.

During the two days, the teens had to work on their teambuilding and problem solving skills. Marc Glotzbecker, Director of Parks and Recreation, was the facilitator for TOTAL TEAM. Each team had to tackle challenging activities to work as a team to accomplish the goal. Activities included creating a human ladder and an activity where all team members had to jump rope five continuous times together. The opportunity of touring the Sandusky County Jail and Juvenile Detention Center was given to the teens and the reaction from all was that the experience was very beneficial.

The teens were able to learn about bullying and Internet Safety. Sgt. Dean Bliss from the Fremont Police Department offered a presentation to inform the teens about dangers with cyber bullying, social networking sites and sexting. This was an introduction to the teens that were trained about iSafe later in the training. The teens are now able to be iMentors through iSafe to teach young children in area schools about the risks of the Internet.

A presentation by Todd Hatch was given to inform the teens about the choices they make behind the wheel that can affect the rest of their lives. Todd Hatch lost his son Todd "Mikey" Hatch after the driver of the car he was in lost control due to speeding and not knowing how to control the vehicle. Teens wore fatal vision goggles to catch a football and drove a simulated car to see how drinking alcohol and speed can affect their ability to do such activities. Todd was able to verbally explain to the teens the step-by-step impact a car crash has on one's body. The teens were able to realize that someone's life can be taken within seven tenths of a second.

The Link meets monthly to hang out, plan campaigns and provide updates on current issues and programming. These teens go into middle schools to talk with young people about choices and well as provide input to local committees and coalitions.

For more information about The Link call the Sandusky County Health Department at 419-334-6387.



Area high school students attended a two-day training session to work on teambuilding and problem solving skills. As a team, the teens jumped rope five consecutive times together. (Submitted photo)