

The Connected Winter, 2009 Special Edition

Mission Statement: The Mission of Crisis Connection Inc. is to work in partnership with communities to empower victims, survivors & persons affected by domestic & sexual violence through confidential crisis intervention, education and advocacy in Crawford, Dubois, Orange, Perry and Spencer Counties.

www.crisisconnectioninc.org

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ATHLETE ABUSED BY COACH LEADS TO 'RESPECT IN SPORT' PROGRAM

Sheldon Kennedy played professional ice hockey in the National Hockey League (NHL). Kennedy is best known for his 1996 revelation of sexual abuse by his former coach in the junior league, Graham James. Kennedy spearheaded a campaign to raise awareness of sexual abuse of children in Canada. He has also recovered from alcohol and drug abuse. He is currently working with the Canadian Red Cross on their Respect-Ed abuse prevention programs.

You can see his personal interviews on YouTube in a four-part series:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJmiddW-gw4>

Respect in Sport is an effective tool for an adult to be prepared to recognize the warning signs and know how to respond. This on-line training course is a tool designed to assist adults in identifying and dealing with abuse, neglect, harassment and bullying in sport. As a coach, this course could better protect you and the athletes in your care.

Respect in Sport is an internationally recognized program developed in conjunction with, and based upon, materials from the Red Cross. By engaging with this trusted partner, adults can have confidence that your training will be thorough, objective and recognized throughout the world of sport. This also allows certification to be transferrable across sporting organizations. Most coaches complete in about three hours total time; the time investment is small compared with the protection it offers athletes. The technology is designed to be run on almost any computer with almost any type of Internet connection; you don't need to have a high-speed connection or a powerful computer to participate. Training can be worked into your schedule at your convenience, in the privacy of your own home or anywhere else you'd like to complete the training.

Our Community Education Specialist, Joan Knies, has completed the course and would be happy to share information with anyone who is interested. She also would be happy to provide supplemental materials or a free presentation on child safety.

Check it out at: <https://www.redcrossonlinetraining.org/Distance/Default.aspx?CID=76>



CRISIS CONNECTION COLLABORATES WITH JASPER HIGH SCHOOL S.T.A.N.D.

Jasper High School and Crisis Connection recently implemented a program for their athletes entitled, 'STAND' (Student Athletes Noticeably Determined). It is designed to remind student-athletes of their responsibilities beyond sports itself.

Their Principal, School Social Worker and Athletic Director remind the youth about their commitment to their 'Code of Conduct' including abstaining from drugs, alcohol, tobacco and other destructive behaviors. They also remind them of IHSAA's sportsmanship expectations (Indiana High School Athletic Association) - http://www.ihsaa.org/teen_sportsmanship_tips.shtm

Our agency then shares information on healthy relationships, respect, and personal accountability. Using a variety of shoes, students are literally asked to write 'what they stand for' on them. These words are then discussed and a reflection packet is distributed. The students are asked to put the handout in their locker or duffel bag. They are then asked to retrieve it occasionally and reflect on some of it's contents including two-pages of heartfelt journaling questions (*i.e. who's gonna fill your shoes – how are you mentoring them?; do I 'walk the talk'?; if the shoe fits...etc.*)

Content shared with the athletes and coaches includes: *Yvette Cade's Story; *7 Habits Of Highly Effective Teens including personal mission building; *Randy Pausch's 'Last Lecture' NFL Dream; 'Facing The Giants' movie; and Dead Poet's Society 'Carpe Diem'.

Follow-up posters are hung displaying 'Playing It Smart & Safe' resources such as www.chooserespect.org and www.crisisconnectioninc.org/teens, etc. The shoes with words are also displayed on school bulletin boards. A larger board is hung in the Athletic Department Office and a binder of all the materials is placed in the School's Main Office.

It's important to note that the Coaching & Administrative Staff at Jasper all attended a Crisis Connection Seminar entitled, "More Than A Few Good Men" with Jackson Katz as a speaker. Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools was honored with an award this past Fall by the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence for its efforts. They collaborate with Crisis Connection on in-school programming for grades K-12 including anti-bullying, sexual harassment prevention, predatory drug avoidance, service learning and promoting tolerance.

Please contact Joan Knies, our Community Education Specialist, if you'd like to see the reflection packet that was shared with the athletes. She would also love to talk with any school system or athletic program to see if a similar program would be helpful to them.

I stand up for my country, my school, & my team.

I stand by my commitment to the Code of Student Athletic Conduct.

I stand for respect and sportsmanship.

I stand on a solid foundation of purpose & dedication.

I stand on the 'shoulders of giants'.

If I don't stand for something, I'll fall for anything.
Stand by me.



THE COACH'S PLAYBOOK AGAINST DRUGS

The Coach's Playbook Against Drugs available at <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/pubs/coachesplaybook/> offers practical tips on how to help athletes from using alcohol, tobacco or other drugs.

Some 'key plays' provided:

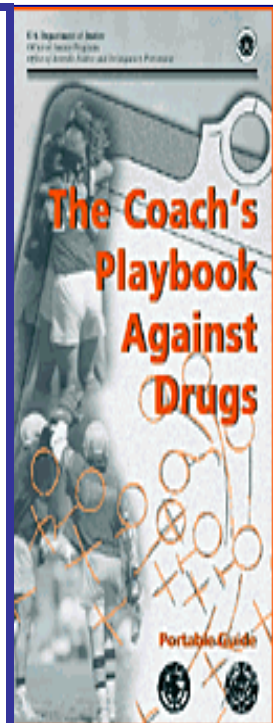
- +Clearly express your expectation that players will not use drugs.
- +Encourage athletes to set personal goals and assist them in making progress toward those goals.
- +Have older players reinforce the idea that real "cool" kids don't use drugs -- they disapprove of them.
- +Help young people to develop appropriate decision making skills.
- +Develop meaningful relationships with the young people.

NOTE: Crisis Connection Staff serve on the Substance Abuse Councils of Dubois, Perry and Spencer Counties. See:

www.duboiscountysubstanceabuse.org/

<http://www.perrycountysubstanceabuse.org/>

<http://www.in.gov/cji/2402.htm>



SPECIAL SOMEONES

Our agency tries to honor people who go above and beyond with no expectation of praise other than the reward inherent in making a difference.

This month we recognize the **Jasper High School Basketball Team**. Coach John Goebel and Assistant Coaches Scott Yarbrough & Jason Ahlbrand brought their team of 18 young men to install donated work spaces in our office. They also performed several repairs in a safe house we use. Finally, they raked up bags of leaves and cleaned our van.

Their entire school also collected a massive amount of donations for us over the Christmas season as well.

Violence Is Always A Choice.

JACKSON KATZ – FOLLOW UP FROM OUR SEMINAR...

Jackson Katz's (who was a presenter at a seminar sponsored by our agency) MVP Program is designed to train male student-athletes and other student leaders to use their status to speak out against rape, battering, sexual harassment, gay-bashing, and all forms of sexist abuse and violence.

Why the initial focus on working with student-athletes? Ever since abused women's programs established their first educational or "youth outreach" initiatives in the schools in the 1970's, one of the key challenges they have faced is the apathy, defensiveness – and sometimes outright hostility – of otherwise well-meaning men. While males in the school-based athletic subculture have hardly been unique in their reluctance to embrace gender violence prevention education, they typically occupy a privileged position in school culture, and particularly in male peer culture. As such, male student-athletes – especially in popular team sports such as football, basketball, baseball, wrestling, and soccer – tend to have enormous clout when it comes to establishing or maintaining traditional masculine norms. Their support or lack of support for prevention efforts can make or break them. Learn more at: <http://www.jacksonkatz.com/mvp.html> or check with our Community Education Department. Natalie & Joan also can share the Family Violence Prevention Fund's 'Coaching Boys Into Men' curriculum with you. (www.coaches-corner.org)

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

There is an entire section devoted to ways men can continue to make a difference in ending violence.

<http://www.crisisconnectioninc.org/justformen/default.htm>

10 POSITIVE Things That Parents Can Do:

1. Positive verbalization during events
2. Praise of athlete/child
3. Always including fun in events
4. Encouraging child to focus on more than one sport
5. Talking and listening to athlete/child
6. Being appreciative of work by referees or officials
7. Positive attitude toward coach
8. Giving coach respect during and after events
9. Helping child by practicing skills with them
10. Attending athlete/child's events

FROM: www.positivecoaching.org

10 POSITIVE Things That Coaches Can Do:

1. Have realistic expectations
2. Always including fun in the sport
3. Obtain appropriate training for the sport
4. Allowing injured players ample time to recuperate
5. Having the desire to win, but enjoying the improvement of players/team
6. Maintaining communication with parent
7. Knowing what is abuse and how to prevent it
8. Accepting the performance of referees and officials
9. Having respect for the game
10. Knowing the difference between outcome goals versus performance goals

Also check: www.positivecoach.org

Liberty Mutual's Responsible Sports™ program supports volunteer youth sport coaches and parents who help our children succeed both on and off the field/court.

Check out great free tools 'food for thought':



http://www.responsiblesports.com/responsible_sport_parenting/responsible_sports_parent_toolkit.aspx

MyStrength.org

Coaching Boys
INTO MEN
PLAYBOOK

Check out the 'Coaching Boys Into Men' interesting media campaign:

http://www.endabus.org/section/programs/public_communications/_coaching_bovs

SAD FACTS YOU CAN CHANGE!

***If every woman victimized by domestic violence last year were to join hands in a line, that line would extend from New York to Los Angeles and back again.**

***More women are treated in emergency rooms for injuries related to intimate partner violence than for nonmarital rapes, muggings, and traffic accidents combined.**

FROM: CSAP Prevention Pathways Online Course - http://pathwayscourses.samhsa.gov/vawp/vawp_3_pg5.htm