Strategies for Engaging Youth in Sexual Violence Prevention

June 29-30, 2011

Speaker Biographies

Lynn Anderson Feils is a co-leader for Planned Parenthood's Teen Pregnancy Peer Education Team. After earning a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts from The University of Iowa in 2001, she began working with adolescents through theater education. Nine years ago, Lynn began working in the sexual health education arena and was trained in Comprehensive Sexuality Education with an emphasis on teen pregnancy prevention and HIV/AIDS education. After years of experience, she became a trainer for other sexual health educators throughout Ohio. In addition to co-leading the Peer Education Team, Lynn continues to facilitate Comprehensive Sexuality Education courses in many Central Ohio schools, universities, community organizations and parent groups. Contact Felis at feilsl@ppcoh.org or (614) 224-2235 ext. 3009.

Greg Broadwater is a rising Junior at Cleveland's St. Martin de Porres High School. He participates as a Boys Hope/Girls Hope of Northeast Ohio scholar, which has enabled him to attend St. Martin's. He enjoys listening to music, reading as much as he can get his hands on, hanging out with his friends, and generally having good conversations. He's especially proud of his work with the first class of Cleveland Rape Crisis Center's Youth 360 program, where he completed a project in several parts--with a friend, he presented a spoken word poem at CRCC's Take Back the Night event and is also currently working on a survivor/allies campaign through posters and Facebook called "You're Never Alone."

Lórien Castelle, a trainer for the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, has been an activist and advocate for social justice for two decades. Specializing in community organizing, organizational development, prevention programming and strategic planning, Ms. Castelle serves on a number of statewide and regional committees and is a much sought after trainer, meeting facilitator and keynote speaker. She is currently responsible for New York's DELTA Project - designing activities that *prevent* domestic violence and that can be integrated into established coordinated community response efforts. Ms. Castelle also coordinates the Coalition's Western Regional Office in Rochester, NY, and provides technical assistance, support and training to domestic violence programs and allies throughout NYS State and to statewide domestic violence coalitions throughout the country. Contact Castelle at LCastelle@nyscadv.org or (585) 413-0887.

Danielle Cisterino has worked with the Toledo Children's Hospital Teen PEP (Peers Educating Peers) Program for over 15 years. She was first involved with the program as a teen leader in the 1990's, then became an assistant to the coordinator and now has the lead coordinator role. She holds a degree in Secondary Education and has been a highlighted guest speaker on "The Roundtable with Jeff Smith" an NBC syndicated affiliate in Toledo. The program is a televised forum with discussions on current topics of interest to the community. Danielle served as an expert panelist on the topic of bullying and teen dating violence. Contact Cisterino at Danielle.Cisterino@promedica.org or (419) 291-8922.

Alyssa Guinn is a junior at Whitehall Yearling High School and a member of the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Peer Education Team there. As a peer educator, she has had the opportunity to teach in her school's health classes, act in STD: Sex, Truth and Deception and many other school and community events. When she is not educating her classmates about sexual health, she is participating in many other community activities and groups. Alyssa coaches two little league cheerleading teams, sings in her church choir and participates in local and state pageants and writing contests. In addition, she is the Vice President of One Life 2 Live which is an organization that promotes safety and school pride.

Jan GreenRiver is currently the Director of Prevention at Mental Health America and the Coordinator of the Prevent Assault & Violence Education or PAVE program. Previously she worked with younger students through the Child Abuse Prevention Program (CAPP) and as Director of an extended day program for a parochial school. Her years of education and experience working in theatre combined with her family history in Native American culture led the PAVE program to expand during her tenure. Within weeks of starting as the PAVE Coordinator, she was honored with the Women in the NAACP (WIN) Diversity Award. Contact GreenRiver at jgreenriver@mhalc.org or (740) 522-2277.

Tawnee GreenRiver is entering her senior year at Heath High School and is the Prevent Assault & Violence Education (PAVE) President. Tawnee is also active in two church youth groups, Young Life, Girl Scouts, Spanish Club, softball and Chorale. She plans to attend Denison University after graduation with an emphasis in photography, art and service. Tawnee has presented with PAVE for three years, including at the 2010 GenerAsian Next Youth Leadership Conference and on *Skyline Columbus*. She is also one of the charter members of the Our Futures in Licking County Youth Leadership Council, recently attended the Rotary's Camp Enterprise and will be attending TI training at Kenyon College in July.

Alex Leslie has been engaged in sexual violence prevention for the last 5 years. As a Prevention Specialist at Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, he presents educational programs for college students, adults and special populations, coordinates Men of Strength Club programs for young men and boys, and created the Youth 360 leadership program. Alex holds a Master of Business Administration in Organizational Development and Leadership from Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies from the College of William and Mary. Contact Leslie at alexl@clevelandrcc.org or (216) 619-6194 ext. 121.

Brooke McCartney recently graduated from Whitehall Yearling High School and will be attending Otterbein University this fall. Brooke has been a member of Whitehall's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Peer Education Team since it began at the school. In her two years of service, she has marched for reproductive rights, lobbied Ohio senators in Washington DC and educated over 100 of her peers about sexual health. Brooke also played for the school's tennis team for four years and co-captained the team her senior year. In addition, she has coached little league t-ball and enjoys playing guitar.

Kimberly Matulonis has been an educator in the health education field for the last ten years. She has developed and implemented teen dating classes as well as puberty classes for St. Luke's Hospital's Birth and Parenting Department. She is currently a Program Specialist at the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence. In her current capacity she oversees the Teen Advisory Council for both the Start Strong Idaho project and the Center for Healthy Teen Relationships and the teen's efforts in their own communities. Kimberly has a Bachelors of Science Degree in Health Education and Promotion from Boise State University. Contact Matulonis at kimberly@engagingvoices.org or (208) 384.0419 ext. 307.

Melissa McClain is a Kent State University graduate and the program coordinator for the RESPECT period program at Akron Children's Hospital. Beginning in 2006, RESPECT period has implemented a comprehensive high school program that discusses the impact of teen dating violence and sexual assault, while empowering student leaders to assist their peers in trouble. As of 2011, there are 36 school districts involved in RESPECT period and over 600 trained student leaders that promote healthy relationships as well as question school norms that may instigate violence. Contact McClain at mmcclain@chmca.org at (330) 543-8404.

Paige Nelson is the Youth and Community Director at RYASAP. She has over 10 years experience working in the training and development field, and currently oversees the youth and community development programs and various other training projects and collaborations. She works with youth, community members, nonprofit agencies, and grassroots organizations throughout the area in addition to the Bd. of Education, private foundations, and the city and state governments and supervises a staff comprised of full time staff, Jesuit Volunteers, youth coordinators, in-school teacher coordinators, and AmeriCorps volunteers. Vital to her work is the human rights framework she gained from working with the Poor People's Campaign and University of the Poor while completing graduate studies at Yale University. She has presented her "Listening Project" work at both national and state conferences, as well as lectured at local universities. For the Robert Wood Johnson Start Strong Initiative, she serves as the Start Strong Bridgeport Project Director and grant writer/manager, providing the primary leadership and vision for the overall program. Contact Nelson at paigenelson@sbcglobal.net or (203) 579-2727.

Julianna Nemeth is the former Director of the same program at HelpLine. During her time at HelpLine, Julianna helped to form the PEACE Collaborative and found the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence. JN is currently pursuing her PhD at the Ohio State University and plans to focus on research related to sexual violence. Contact Nemeth at nemeth.37@osu.edu.

Nancy Radcliffe works for the HelpLine of Delaware and Morrow Counties. In this capacity, she oversees the Sexual Assault Services program: prevention programming and SARN services. NR has worked in the anti-violence field for approximately 23 years and also is a certified self-defense instructor. Contact Radcliffe at nradcliffe@helplinedelmor.org or (740) 363-1835.

Lauren Riley graduated from Ohio University with a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work. She is the coordinator of a program that focuses on the primary prevention of sexual and intimate partner violence in Athens, Vinton, and Hocking Counties. Contact Riley at saprevention@gmail.com or (740) 592-3091 ext. 4621.

Laura Rooney has over 13 years experience in the area of Coordinated School Health. She has provided technical assistance to school districts across the state in team development, assessment, plan writing and evaluation. Ms. Rooney has spoken on CSH topics on a local, state and national level. She has chaired the annual Coordinated School Health Conference and chaired the State Planning Committee for Health Education in Ohio. Contact Rooney at laura.rooney@odh.ohio.gov or (614) 466-1335.

Autumn Rose Post is a 2011 graduate from Stow-Munroe Falls high school in Summit County. Beginning in 2008 she was only freshman from Stow to participate in the RESPECT. Student ambassador Training with Akron Children's Hospital. By 2009, Autumn had single handedly recruited 2 new Stow staff advisors as well as 20 new students to revive the Respect. Program in her school. With her team by her side, Autumn brought the RESPECT. program to all health classes in grades 7-12. Her efforts were recognized in 2010 when she was featured in an article about RESPECT. in the Akron Beacon Journal and again when she was interviewed by The University of Akron's student radio about RESPECT. In the same year she was nominated and elected to the Summit County Youth Leadership Board.

Laura Schumm obtained her Masters degree in 2010 at the University of Toledo where she became passionate about ending all forms of violence against women. Prior to receiving her position at the Ohio Domestic Violence Network she was a court advocate and rape crisis volunteer. Currently she is coordinating Project Connect and working with family planning and adolescent health clinics to implement an integrated screening protocol. Laura is a member of the National Association of Social Workers and the Toledo Take Back the Night Collective. Contact Schumm at lauras@odvn.org or (614) 781-9651 ext 234.

Arissa Scott is a first year member of Cleveland Rape Crisis Center's Youth 360 program, where she was particularly proud of getting to present information to her health classes about everything she's learned about the prevention of sexual violence. She loves performing in any way possible: singing, acting, playing the violin, and even Cheerleading! As a rising Junior at South Euclid, Ohio's Brush High School, Arissa has her eyes set on continuing acting in college, and sees herself having a future career in law.

Ty Sells is recognized as an individual who cares deeply for the well being of youth. He is known for his charisma and leadership. Not just a speaker, Ty brings over twenty years of experience in drug prevention and community services. Ty is an Ohio Certified Prevention Specialist II. He received his BA in Communication from The Ohio State University and is currently the Director of Training and Development for Youth to Youth International in Columbus, Ohio. While working closely with the youth, he has gained first hand knowledge of the joys and challenges of being young today. Ty has developed a number of trainings, workshops, and presentations to address the many complex issues that confront today's young people. Contact Sells at tsells@youthtoyouth.net or (614) 224-2406.

Os'sad Shaheer is a recent graduate of Rogers High School in Toledo, OH and the valedictorian of the class of 2011 there. PEP leader during his senior year, which was the first full year for Teen PEP at Rogers High School. Os'sad is "the perfect extracurricular involvement and admirable personal character" as described by his principal at graduation ceremonies this June. GPA; was involved in baseball, football, quiz bowl, SAAB, Youth Leadership Toledo, and Teen PEP as well as being a member. He had a hard time practicing Teen Pep role plays that required him to be the "bad guy" but soon embraced the importance the message was believable and impactful to his peers."

Lisa Sohn is a Program Director working with *Start Strong: Building Healthy Teen Relationships*, a national initiative to prevent teen dating violence targeted at 11-14 year olds. For *Start Strong* Ms. Sohn works with 11 diverse grantees, assessing technical assistance needs and providing strategic direction. Prior to joining Futures Without Violence (formerly Family Violence Prevention Fund), Ms. Sohn worked in public relations and political communications. She has worked with non-profit clients as well as on political campaigns across the country, from the state legislative level to U.S. President. In addition, she has served legislators in both state and federal government. Contact Sohn at LSohn@FuturesWithoutViolence.org or (415) 252-8900).

Shayna Stolte will be a senior at Licking Valley High School this fall and is the Prevent Assault & Violence Education (PAVE) Community Liaison. Shayna is active at her high school being a leader in Renaissance Club, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), and her church youth group. She is also employed at Donato's in Newark and plans to attend college upon graduation. Shayna is also one of the charter members of the Our Futures in Licking County Youth Leadership Council as a representative for Licking Valley High School.

Nikki Skrinak joined Planned Parenthood in 2009 and has worked as a community health educator with a team that has provided education services to more than 7,000 people in Central Ohio per year. In addition, she is a co-leader of the Whitehall-Yearling Peer Education Program with Lynn Feils. Ms. Skrinak volunteers as an advocate for survivors of sexual assault with the Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio. Contact Skrinak at skrinakn@ppcoh.org or (614) 354-2765.