

## **2014/2015 CHNA 20 Grantees**

### **Community Grant Award Recipients \$33,500 Allocated in 2014**

#### **Project: Health Imperative's School-Based Sexual Assault Project**

##### **Lead Organization: Health Imperatives, Inc.**

Collaborators: Quincy Public Schools, Quincy College

Summary: Health Imperatives' School-Based Sexual Assault Awareness project has increased access to care for survivors of sexual assault in Quincy. The goal of this project is to provide a safe and supportive environment for survivors to seek the medical, legal, and emotional care they need to rebuild their lives after an assault. Together with local Quincy Schools, Health Imperatives works to stem the tide of sexual assaults on/off school campuses and provide vital counseling and advocacy services to all survivors.

#### **Project: Open Circle – Social Emotional Learning**

##### **Lead Organization: Scituate Public Schools**

Collaborators: Open Circle, Scituate FACTS Coalition, Scituate Healthy Elementary School Task Force

Summary: The purpose of the Open Circle-Social Emotional Learning program is to increase students' pro-social skills and decrease problem behaviors for all students in Kindergarten through Grade 5, which in turn will support an easier transition to middle school and reduce mental health and substance use risks. To accomplish this Scituate Public Schools has implemented the Open Circle curriculum. This grant has allowed for training to not only initiate, but sustain program efforts long-term. Open Circle is the leading provider of evidence-based curriculum and professional development for social and emotional learning, and directly connects to the CHNA 20 core health area of mental health, and secondarily impacts substance use outcomes.

#### **Program: Empowering Veterans Enabling Success (EVES)**

##### **Lead Organization: Quincy College**

Veterans have often experienced traumatic events, with the residual effects of combat injury creating difficulties in an academic setting. Many veterans enrolled as students are married and have responsibilities beyond obtaining an education. The goals of this project are: to create educational opportunities for faculty so that they will be better prepared to address the unique needs of student veterans and their families; to empower the Quincy College Organization for Student Veterans to participate at the national level by forming a local chapter of the national organization and acquire space in order to provide assistance that will address the needs of the student veterans; and to identify and develop resources related to social services and mental health within walking distance to the Quincy College campus to address urgent issues facing student veterans in order to supplement existing services as needed.

#### **Program: Reducing the Rate of Hypertension of Randolph Seniors**

##### **Lead Organization: The Randolph Senior Center**

Collaborators: Randolph Public Housing, Randolph Public Health, Simon C. Fireman Community, Bridle Path Apartments, New Life Counseling & Wellness Center

Nearly 82% of Randolph seniors suffer from hypertension per a recent Tufts/Gerontology Institute study, a rate that is worse than that of Massachusetts' seniors as a whole. Hypertension

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is also a major risk factor for stroke and a cause of chronic kidney disease. The Reducing the Rate of Hypertension of Randolph Seniors program has focused on reducing the level of hypertension and related diseases in Randolph, MA through a program series that includes cooking classes, nutrition education and support group sessions.

**Program: My Life, My Choice Preventing Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**  
**Lead Organization: Norfolk Advocates for Children**

Collaborators: Weymouth Public Schools, Weymouth Police, Coastal DCF

Norfolk Advocates for Children provides support to a group of adolescent girls ages 12-18 in Weymouth Public Schools for the prevention of commercial sexual exploitation of children. The NAC has provided the “My Life, My Choice” curriculum to the group of students to help them develop the tools and knowledge they need to avoid being recruited and sexually exploited.

**Program: Point Webster Middle School's Positive and Safe School Climate Program**

**Lead Organization: Point Webster Middle School, Quincy**

Collaborators: Deana’s Educational Theater, Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA), Anti-Defamation League’s (ADL) “Youth Congress” and Quincy community police officers.

Point Webster Middle School has worked with its collaborators to promote a “positive and safe school climate.” Deana’s Educational Theater was the catalyst for this program and performed a play entitled, “Remote Control” regarding teenage dating violence for grades 7 & 8.

Comprehensive health education has been conducted during health classes for all grades. Eighth grade students were trained by the MIAA and ADL to form a “Human Rights Squad.” The “Human Rights Squad” shared lessons learned with their younger peers in grades 5-7 (“peers teaching peers”).

**Program: Town of Norwood Falls Prevention Program**

**Lead Organization: Norwood Health Department**

Collaborators: Norwood Fire Department & Norwood Council on Aging

Falls are not an inevitable part of aging. In fact, many falls can be prevented. The Health Department, Council on Aging and the Fire Department in the Town of Norwood have worked in collaboration to implement a Falls Prevention Program. The agency has used the fall prevention model from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to structure a program specific for Norwood seniors. The program focuses on fall and accident prevention in the home and encompasses a multifaceted approach using biological, behavioral and environmental risk factors.