

Fall 2013 Newsletter

## Activities

## School Community Partnership and Youth CHOICES Going Strong!

The School Community Partnership/Youth CHOICES Collaborative had an outstanding meeting in December to follow up our networking and opening meeting. We looked to define the rewards and obstacles of collaborations, analyzed where our personal interests and goals lie within this group, and analyzed recent risk behavior survey results from our middle and high school students. Moving forward, we are looking to develop specific goals for our youth with their challenges in mind, as well as creating a sub-committee that will tackle this work on a deeper level. The group looks forward to keeping our momentum rolling forward with the passion we all have to further support and develop the youth of our city.





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## Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Initiative Presents at Bristol Community College

As part of the Healthy City Fall River's Design Team, the Community Safety and Violence Prevention Task Force designed a presentation for students at Bristol Community College regarding this topic in our city on November 20, 2013. The Katie Brown Educational Program was able to speak to healthy relationships and how it affects our population, and the Fall River Police Department was able to reflect on current trends and issues. Students tremendously enjoyed the presentation from our youth who spoke about their personal struggles related to violence while growing up in Fall River, as well as discuss the factors that helped them through these obstacles.

## Youth Leadership Council Launched

On October 29th the Youth Leadership Council kicked off with a launch session held at The Tradewinds. Adult and youth leaders came to paricipate in a conversations workshop with the topic of "The Possibility of Decreasing Absenteeism." Each month the youth leadership council will host a general forum meeting open to all youth and adult leaders. Lead by youth, the process will address youth concerns with the goal of drafting a youth master plan in the spring of 2014.



Please remember to email Michaela Gagne Hetzler with any information for the Fall River Youth Violence Prevention website at: <u>michaelajgagne@gmail.com</u>. Thank you!

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