

Prevention Newsletter

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Kids With A Vision members Honesty Bell (left), Unique Tavano (center) and Talia Turner (right) present their business, Ready, Set, Dance at The Black History Program.

2016 Black History Month Program

Akron-UMADAOP, Inc. presented another successful Annual Black History Program this February! Guest speaker Roy Bickley spoke about his life and days in the Negro Baseball League, while addressing the challenges and adversity he overcame.

The youth also presented to the audience. Youth Led Prevention focused on Akron based African-American history. Each member portrayed a person or event in history that effected Akron. Teens On The Move played the part of African-Americans and interactively allowed the audience to guess the person they described. Prizes were distributed for correct answers.

"I thought our kids did marvelously, despite being scared of the large crowd," explained TOTM Life Coach and Prevention Specialist William VanDyke.

Completing the youth portion of the program, Kids With A Vision youth showed a glimpse into their futures by designing businesses that they would like to own. Each business idea consisted of a model, diagram and goals.

Prevention Department Organizations

Kids With A Vision

Kids With A Vision youth represent the six-twelve year old demographic at Akron-UMADAOP, Inc. The majority of KWAV youth are Honor Roll students who meet twice a week to focus on character building, cultural awareness, prevention and academic success.

Teens On The Move

Teens On The Move is a program for teenagers ages 13-17. It focuses on student academic and social skills. The purpose is to assist in developing a positive self-image, self-esteem, and the value of communicating their feelings. This year the TOTM have focused on maturing and focusing on their personal character. Their goal is to do the right thing, even when no one is looking.

Youth Led Prevention

Youth Led Prevention is a youth driven program that promotes healthy lifestyle choices free of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. They attend bi-weekly meetings and have also collaborated with The University of Akron and Summit County Teen Institute. Vice-President Zaire Johnson traveled to Washington DC in February to attend the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America Forum. Along with other members of The YLP Federation, he was able to address youth drug use prevention on Capitol Hill with individuals including Ohio Senators Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman.

Youth Highlight



Youth Led Prevention Vice President Zaire Johnson (left) and President Keilah Thompson (right) after a Youth Led Prevention Federation meeting.

Youth To Youth

I am Keilah Thompson, president of Youth Led Prevention. I have been part of Akron-UMADAOP for six years. I have always wanted to be a part of a group full of like-minded peers that had the ability and were willing to take action to help the community in a positive way; YLP is exactly that. Through YLP I have built on to my leadership skills, improved my public speaking, and become more involved in my community. By attending awareness walks, volunteering at nursing homes, raking locals' leaves, and planning our own volunteer events, the members of YLP have gained a relationship and responsibility for our community. What I value most is applying the leadership skills I learn through Youth Led in everyday life.

Keilah Thompson