



EDUCATIONAL
GRANT SERVICES, INC.

FALL 2019

SRAE

Sexual Risk Avoidance Education

INFO

CJH Celebrates YR1 of its SRAE Project

Approximately **739** teens participated in the **Sexual Risk Avoidance Education program** this first year administered by CJH Educational Grant Services, Inc. Partnering agencies included school districts, nonprofits, and faith-based organizations in 12 counties. At-risk teens ages 13-19 attended classroom-style sessions after school and on Saturdays to learn about healthy relationships, drug prevention, and avoiding risky sexual behaviors with the Choosing the Best curriculum supported by topics on self-regulation and success sequencing.

While the target number of youth to reach was 850, the program staff believes that 87% was a success, missing the target by only 111 teens. *"Our partnering agencies did an exceptional job in recruitment and service to teens this year. We thank them wholeheartedly for all they did to secure space, train facilitators, and other services. Preparation for Hurricane Dorian and its devastation partially affected our ability to reach even more youth,"* says Cynthia J. Harris, company president. *We will work to exceed our mark next year."* Onslow, Duplin, and New Hanover counties prepared heavily for the storm.

Parent involvement was a program objective and of particular interest to Weldon City Schools and its Parent Educator, Terry D. Alston.

Other counties located in this 2018-2019 teen pregnancy prevention catchment area are Brunswick, Edgecombe, Halifax, Hoke, Nash, Randolph, Robeson, Scotland, Swain, and Wilson. ★



Special Guest, **John Clark**, ABC11 Anchor

News Anchor Visits

Although newsman **John Clark** is co-anchor on two of ABC11 Eyewitness News broadcasts, he took time to visit with youth participating in the SRAE program at *Conetoe Family Life Center, Inc.* (Edgecombe County). On Thursday, April 18, 2019, he challenged youth to avoid risk, stay in school and do well. Mr. Clark visited at the invitation of the Center's Executive Director, **Helen Collins**.

THANK YOU!

...to all Sub-Grant agencies and Partnering Organizations that served youth in their communities this past year.

- Blue Springs-Hoke County CDC
- Conetoe Family Life Center
- Divine Faith Baptist Church
- Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency
- Free Will Baptist Children's Home
- Greater Joy Baptist Church
- Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church
- Tillery Spectrum Connections
- Together Transforming Lives
- Weldon City Schools
- Wilson Housing Authority

YR1 Evaluation Completed

Results are in!

Krystina Dillard, M.S. and colleagues with the **North Carolina Community Action Association** completed the final analysis of performance data (from 720 pre-post survey pairs) which is being submitted to funders, FYSB, ACF, USDHHS.

“Overall, evaluation results suggest the program produced the anticipated outcomes and promoted positive change on attitudes/beliefs and increased knowledge around abstinence, sex, marriage, and healthy relationships. Qualitative responses suggest most youth gained understanding of the importance of self-regulation and some understanding of success sequencing or other success factors.” ★

[Data: Average age 15; 55% female; 88.8% Heterosexual; 2.8% parents or parenting; 1% Runaway or Homeless.]

A full report is available upon request.

Teen Leadership

Charshae Phillips accepted the role of engaging the Teen Leadership Council for Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency (ECHSA), a sub-grantee for SRAE. Teens met on several occasions under her guidance and provided insightful observations and ideas in a written report to be used to improve the program.

“Teens who participated in ECHSA, Inc.’s first Teen Council Meeting were excited to participate and represent as ambassador leaders. They offered a wide array of information that would serve beneficial to the continued success of the program. Members addressed issues such as up dating the curriculum videos and incorporating real people who can identify with the program. Overall they enjoyed their experience with the program.” **Trudy Murray** is the Executive Director for ECHSA. Thanks, teens! ★

Parents Focus on SRAE

Terry Alston conducts seminar with parents (Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019).



Parent PREP curriculum (Choosing the Best) was offered to parents during two educational sessions this past year on the Halifax Community

College campus. A poignant film was viewed, and The Big Talk Book was given to each parent. Both generated much discussion. ★

Service Award Presented



Gloria Williams-Wilson, Curriculum Site Monitor & Trainer, presents **Cynthia J. Harris** with a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the federal Program Officer, **Jewellynne Tinsley**. The service award and two gift certificates were presented at a Quarterly Partner’s Training Meeting in Rocky Mount, Wednesday, July 10, 2019. ★



Teens at **Greater Joy Baptist Church** (North) in Halifax County participate in a **Choosing the Best** curriculum activity.

Our Teachers and Facilitators

Appreciation is extended to our facilitators and monitors who were trained in the **Choosing the Best** curriculum and dispatched throughout the 12-county area to teach youth and observe.

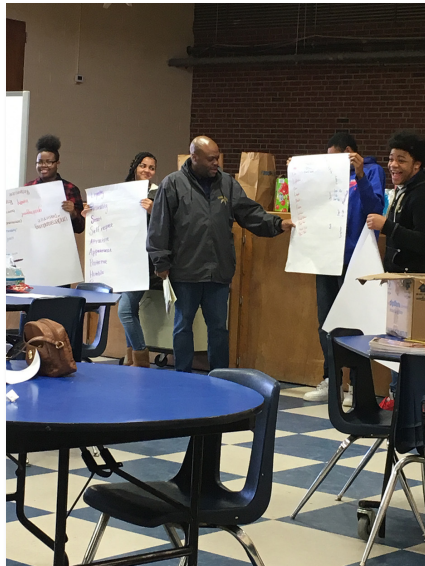
- **Lekesha Barnes-Staton**
- **Melvin L. Felton, Jr.**
- **Norma Hedgepeth**
- **Dr. Wandra P. Hill**
- **Patricia Hopkins**
- **April Love-Williams**
- **Shirley Smith**



Ciara Boone and **James Chavis** are learning about avoiding risks.



Teens listen and then hold up posters in SRAE class facilitated by **Rev. Dr. Danny Ellis** at Halifax County Schools and **Cory Booker** at Weldon City Schools.



To learn more about the SRAE federal initiative, log on to the following websites:

- www.weascend.org
- www.acf.hhs.gov/fysb/programs/adolescent-pregnancy-prevention/sexual-risk-avoidance-education
- The Grant: file:///C:/Documents%20and%20Settings/Administrator/My%20Documents/Downloads/srae_facts_20170217.pdf

From the Staff

This year at **CJH Educational Grant Services Inc.**, has been awesome. It has been an opportunity which has allowed me to grow and learn so many important things about the teens we serve.



Gloria Williams-Wilson

The obstacles and challenges faced by youth are so numerous and overwhelming at times. But through our work, we are reminded daily of the boundless potential that exists within our youth. We know they are resilient, and tough. The work we do teaches how important it is to graduate high school, get a full-time job and wait until 21 years of age and married before having a child.

Our work matters; we're preparing youth for a healthier life. The more our youth are educated, the more likely they are to break the cycle of poverty and risky sexual behavior. They will contribute significantly to our economy and build happier and healthy families.

The partners and communities we serve in the 12 North Carolina counties have played a very important role in making this year's goals a reality.

Thank you all, and let's do even greater work in year two. ★

Gloria Williams-Wilson
Curriculum Site Monitor &
Trainer

A Demonstrated Difference

by Krystina Dillard, M.S.

To Program directors and facilitators:

Through pre/post survey results, the evaluation team told your YR1 impact story through youth data and quotes. Pre/post survey data was the primary tool used to determine the success of your program.

Soon, you will bask in the glory of administering a successful YR2 SRAE program.

We need YOU to continue to ensure data is collected in a standardized and appropriate manner. As a facilitator, you play a critical role in ensuring the data reflects youth outcomes.

Here are a few friendly reminders for YR2:

- *Don't forget to administer the pre-test immediately before beginning the curriculum and to administer the post-test immediately following.*
- *Promote anonymity and confidentiality! We must protect sensitive information and encourage honest responses. (Rather than collecting pre/post surveys directly from youth, have them drop completed surveys in a box and shake them up!)*
- *Stick to the curriculum! Pre/post tests questions are based on curriculum content. Maintain program fidelity and cover content as described in your instructor's manual.*
- *Include self-regulation and success sequencing! In addition to the curriculum, topics of self-regulation and success sequencing should be covered.*

Let's make sure your program data accurately reflects your project! Then, parents, youth, partners and facilitators alike will agree the program was a massive success. ★

Community Advisory Council (CAC)

Our appreciation to **Dr. Wandra P. Hill, Chair of the CAC** in YR1 who met in September 2019 with members of the target community for feedback and improvement ideas. Thanks to Dr. Hill and committee members from Onslow and Halifax Counties. ★



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