

PEER 2 PEER

Peer 2 Peer is a group of middle and high school students from Petoskey who were hand-selected by teachers and administrators as positive role models and leaders. This program, established in May of 2000, is a project of Health Department of Northwest Michigan, who provide advisors Susan Pulaski and Kristen Maufort. The youth have spent many hours giving input as to how they believe the program would benefit younger students.

Our Goal

Peer 2 Peer youth will provide Positive Peer Education and Mentoring to younger students throughout the school year.

Objective: Puppets/Education

1. Educational puppet shows for Kindergarten through 2nd grade students.
2. Puppet shows will focus on anger management, positive decision-making, and choosing a drug-free life style.
3. Tobacco education presentations to 3rd and 4th grades.



Objective: Mentoring

1. Weekly mentoring to local elementary students.
2. Working in collaboration with all the Petoskey schools.
3. Each visit includes educational life skill activities.
4. Mentors provide tutoring, as well as friendship to their little buddies.
5. Help with *Asset Yearbook* project at Ottawa Elementary.



Objective: Community Service

1. Community service will be performed monthly at local organizations.
2. All Peer 2 Peer members will participate in at least two projects throughout the year

Objective: Social Events

1. Youth will experience organized drug-free social events.

Funding

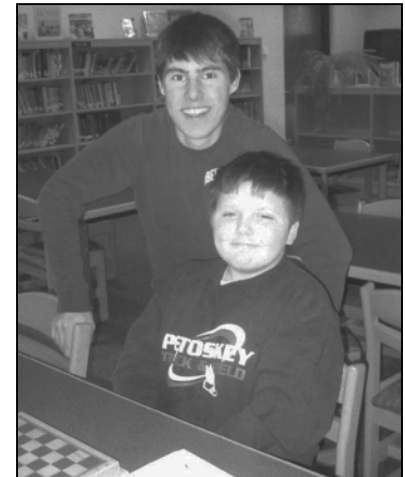
This project is made possible with grant funding from Northern Michigan Substance Abuse Services and Bear Creek Revenue Sharing Board.

Program Highlights

Over the past 7 years the Peer 2 Peer members have volunteered at the Humane Society, Friendship Center, Bortz, Salvation Army, Children's Health Fair, Camp Daggett, Women's Resource Center, Ottawa Elementary School, Independence Village, clean up at the Bear River, Emmet County Fairgrounds and Brother Dan's Pantry, and COATS Birthday project.

In 2005, the Peer 2 Peer students decided to take on an Adopt-a-Highway project. We currently continue this project 3 times a year.

The students have presented at two state-wide conferences: Michigan Coalition to Reduce Underaged Drinking, and Michigan Association of Middle School Educators. At both conferences they shared information about our Peer 2 Peer program and how to get youth involved in Peer Education.



In the school year 05/06:

- ✓ 33 Puppet shows were completed in K-2nd grade classes
- ✓ 18 Tobacco Education classes were completed in 3rd and 4th grades
- ✓ 60 Elementary children were matched with a mentor.

The youth have been dedicated to helping other programs raise much needed funding. Each year the group have participated in the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" 24-hour walk. They also have raised money for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program in their "Bowl of Kid's Sake", and Salvation Army with bell ringing.

Schools Services over the past 7 years include:

- Alanson Littlefield
- Harbor Springs
- St. Francis
- Ottawa Elementary
- Lincoln Elementary
- Sheridan Elementary
- Central Elementary



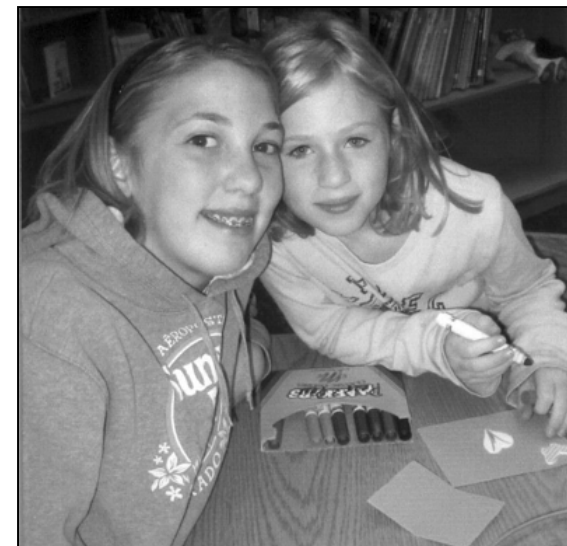
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