

**For Immediate Release
November 21, 2017**

Steuben Prevention Coalition hosts 4th Annual Youth Action Forum

Bath, N.Y. — November 21, 2017 — On Monday, November 20th, the Steuben Prevention Coalition together with Bath-Haverling School District and The Main Place of Hornell sponsored the 4th Annual Youth Action Forum - Student Leaders Initiating Change for Healthy & Positive Schools and Communities.

This year's forum was attended by eight school districts in Steuben County including Addison, Avoca, Bath-Haverling, Bradford, Campbell-Savona, Canisteo-Greenwood, Hammondsport and Prattsburgh with a total of 80 students participating.

The purpose of our Youth Action Forum is to empower our young people to “BE THE CHANGE”, give students a voice to be heard among peers and within the community and to develop skills necessary to nurture abilities in themselves and others in order to make an impact at school or in the larger community. In addition, our students were coached on how to network with other students and leaders to identify available resources and practices that would aid in bringing about that change.

These areas of focus were addressed by Key Note Speaker, Judith A. Rowe of Judith A. Rowe Consulting, LLC., and also by Jim Sweet of the Chamber of Commerce and Cari Scott who is in charge of the Bath Rotary Interact Group.

The goal for this year's forum was to encourage and develop their use of these skills so that the students can then engage in discussions within their individual schools and identify the critical issues impacting their school climate, their peers, and their community.

The Steuben Prevention Coalition's mission is to promote healthy and safe communities in Steuben County by reducing alcohol and drug use among youths. The Coalition is comprised of many county oriented members that are vested in the future of our youth. For more information please visit our website at www.steubenpreventioncoalition.org or contact us directly at 607-776-6441 ext. 202.

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