For Immediate Release

May 17, 2017

Steuben Prevention Coalition and Steuben County STOP DWI Host Prom & Graduation Safety Awareness Events

**Bath, N.Y. — May 17, 2017 —** Over the past few weeks, the Steuben Prevention Coalition and the Steuben County STOP DWI program has hosted Prom & Graduation Safety Awareness Events at Prattsburgh Central School, Hornell High School, Bath-Haverling High School and Addison High School.

Student activities have included a “Battle of the Belts” seat belt challenge, a mock crash scene, Save A Life Tour simulations and an automated go cart challenge. Using alcohol and marijuana goggles students attempted a hole in one golf challenge, cornhole, ladder ball, hop scotch, jenga, shape sorting and basket toss as well as a host of other fun and educational activities. New York State Troopers also simulated field sobriety testing and at the end of the day’s events several videos of tragic events served as a reminder of the importance of making smart decisions and using good judgement.

With prom and graduation events upon us, it is important to recognize that 64.7% of students in grades 8th, 10th and 12th have reported consuming alcohol at a party in the past 12 months; 38% of high school seniors in Steuben County have reported consuming alcohol in the past 30 days; and 23.3% of high school seniors in Steuben County have reported at least one episode of binge drinking in the past 30 days. *(2015 Prevention Needs Assessment Survey)*

These events were a true community effort in Prom & Graduation Safety Awareness. Partners in the events who donated time and resources were Allegany County Stop DWI, Steuben County Youth Bureau, New York State Police, Steuben County Sheriff’s Office, Steuben Council on Addictions, Hornell Police Department, Hornell Fire Department and School Student Volunteers for each location.

*###*

# For more information, please contact:

Colleen Banik

Assistant Program Coordinator

Steuben Prevention Coalition

Phone: (607) 776-6441 ext. 202

Email: cbanik@dor.org