



...strengthening your child's foundation through life skills education. SM

Our Vision

Prevention First is committed to improving the lives of Monmouth County's children so they can thrive and grow to be strong, responsible individuals in any environment.

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A Message from New Board President, Greg Aikins

Dear Friends of Prevention First:

Welcome to 2006 – a year in which Prevention First will **thrive!**

I am so very fortunate and honored to receive the gavel from our accomplished president, John Maldjian. We salute John and our outgoing officers and board members for the many successes during their time in leadership.



Former board president, John Maldjian (left), congratulates new president, Greg Aikins.

In this our 39th year, we must reflect on the vision, dedication, focus and tireless advocacy of those within the Prevention First family who have helped forge the agency we know today. At the head of this list is our “chief advocate” and chief executive, Mary Pat Angelini, whose energy and talents we continue to admire.

The time, however, has surely come to grow our family in significant ways. But how?

At this point in our history, we encounter the real opportunity to fund our programs and impact in the communities we serve more autonomously than ever before. The relationships we build – which enable private and corporate donations, public grants and charitable support and gifts – compose the platform from which we now endeavor to reach **all** of those attracted to our mission.

Simply, it has never been more important for us to share the real **difference delivered** to Monmouth County's children through the science, programs and intervention of Prevention First. The choices they make to the challenges they and succeeding generations face will, without question, shape our society for years to come.

As we look forward to honoring our friend and spokesperson, Max Weinberg, at our April 21st annual gala, *Tonight at Noon*, I invite you to include your colleagues and friends in the message and colors of Prevention First's amber and amethyst.

For as Prevention First thrives, so too will those who need and deserve to make good choices. In gratitude for your support and partnership in our future, I am . . .

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Aikins".

Gregory T. Aikins
President, Board of Trustees



Prevention First Kicks Off Gala Celebration with Max Weinberg

Prevention First celebrated the kick-off of their annual gala on January 16th. Friends and supporters, along with Prevention First's board of trustees, leadership cabinet and gala committee, gathered at the newly opened O Gourmet in Bradley Beach for the celebration. Special guest Max Weinberg, of Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band and the Conan O'Brien show, also attended the event. Weinberg is being honored at this year's gala, *Tonight at Noon*, for his time and dedication to Prevention First as its new spokesman.

Attendees enjoyed the opportunity to meet Mr. and Mrs. Weinberg and mingle with other Prevention First supporters. Guests were encouraged to generate awareness of the importance to support the agency's annual gala through sponsorship and underwriting opportunities. Their support will allow Prevention First to continue its educational programming throughout Monmouth County, fulfilling its mission to strengthen the foundations of children through life skills education.



Left to right: John Maldjian, Mary Pat Angelini, Max Weinberg, John Newman and Grace Hanlon.



The event served as a countdown to the gala, which will be held at The Mill at Spring Lake Heights on April 21, 2006. The gala's theme, *Tonight at Noon*, is based upon an original painting by Horst Liepolt as part of his series, *Jazz Looking from the Inside Out*. The night will be filled with a jazzy New York atmosphere, including entertainment by the band *Don't Call Me Francis*. Brian and Laurie Buckelew of Spring Lake and Jerry and Toni Zaro of Ocean Township will serve as honorary chairs of the event. The gala committee will be headed by event co-chairs John Newman and Tamar Tolchin.

Left to right: Domenick Servodio,Carolynn Ozar-Diakon, Max Weinberg and Michele Lanfrank.

The Countdown to the Gala is On!

Excitement is filling the air as Prevention First's annual gala approaches rapidly. The gala will be held on April 21, 2006 at The Mill at Spring Lake Heights. This year's gala, themed *Tonight at Noon*, promises to be a memorable evening with a perfect mixture of community spirit and elegance. Guests will enjoy spectacular live and silent auctions complete with exclusive gift packages, unique trips, sports memorabilia and one-of-a-kind items for their bidding pleasure. The night will be filled with superb dining coupled with entertainment by the highly acclaimed band, *Don't Call Me Francis*. Most importantly, the gala will raise needed funds to provide substance abuse and bullying prevention programs to children throughout Monmouth County.

Prevention First would like to thank those who have already generously contributed their support for this year's gala:

Miles Davis Sponsors

The Mill at Spring Lake Heights

Ella Fitzgerald Sponsors

Ansell, Zaro, Grimm & Aaron, Counselors at Law

Louis Armstrong Sponsors

Red Bank Title Agency

Meridian Health

Commerce Bank

Two River Times

Duke Ellington Sponsors

New Jersey Natural Gas

K. Hovnanian Enterprises

Medical Management Techniques Inc.

Roseland Property Company

R.S.I. Bank



Agency Receives Grants to Further Prevention

Prevention First received four new grants this year, allowing the Prevention First team to further strengthen the foundations of children and families in Monmouth County.

The Youth Services Commission provided two grants that support the Life Skills Training (LST) and Keys to Innervations programs. The LST program is a drug abuse prevention program based on an understanding of the causes of smoking, alcohol and drug use/abuse. It teaches effective self-management and social skills in order to reduce intrapersonal motivations to use drugs and the vulnerability to pro-drug social influences. Keys to Innervations will be used to provide young people with the skills needed to resolve conflict and maintain positive temperament and to develop healthy beliefs and clear standards for behavior, therefore decreasing the chances of further involvement with the criminal justice system.

The Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office has provided Prevention First with a grant to support Project Vision, a two-year gang prevention program that will provide children with opportunities for life skills development helping make healthy decisions necessary to lead full and productive lives. After-school sessions and alternative activities are designed to encourage awareness of external and internal influences that relate to behaviors, attitudes and knowledge of substance abuse, violence and gangs with the utilization of science-based prevention programs and community collaboration.

The fourth grant was awarded by the New Jersey Office of Faith Based Initiatives to fund the Healthy Communities – Healthy Youth Asset Building Project for Congregations in Monmouth County. During this one-year program, Prevention First will mobilize the partners of the HCHY Asset Building Project into a formal, stable infrastructure for the sharing of information and resources between the partners and communities to strengthen their capacity and effectiveness to ensure that the young people in their congregation and community have the positive experiences they need to grow up healthy, caring and responsible.

Monmouth County to Come Together for Town Hall Meeting on Underage Drinking

Monmouth County, New Jersey, is one of hundreds of communities nationwide that will hold an Underage Drinking Prevention: National Town Halls meeting on March 28, 2006 to discuss and raise awareness about the issue of underage drinking. New data has found that approximately 29% of youth, ages 12 to 20, have used alcohol illegally. By the time they reach eighth grade, 44% of adolescents have had at least one drink, and almost 20% report having been "drunk." Prevention First, in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Human Services, is sponsoring the event. The meeting will take place at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters from 6:30 pm — 8:30 pm. Parents, teachers, officials, youth and other community members will be educated about the impact that underage drinking has on the community and will brainstorm possible ways to address this issue.

For more information, contact Barbara Sprechman, CPS, coordinator of Community Services, at 732.663.1800 ext. 211 or bsprechman@preventionfirst.net.

SAVE THE DATE!



October 16, 2006

**PREVENTION
FIRST'S**

**ANNUAL
GOLF OUTING**

at **EAGLE OAKS GOLF CLUB**

For information, please contact
Gianna Verdoni at 732.663.1800 ext. 219
or gverdoni@preventionfirst.net

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Prevention First President's Club

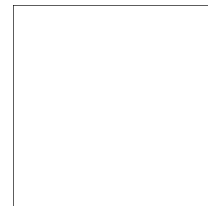
Prevention First recently launched the President's Club, which is intended to distinguish support from the corporations that traditionally sponsor Prevention First.

The agency is proud to celebrate the commitment of their charter members: Commerce Bank, Medical Management Techniques Inc, Meridian Health, New Jersey Natural Gas and Red Bank Title Agency. These corporate sponsors have been long-term supporters of Prevention First's programming, fundraising and educational activities, thus continually illustrating their commitment to the agency's mission of strengthening the foundations of children and families by empowering them to successfully handle difficult, everyday life situations and extraordinary challenges such as violence and substance abuse.

*For more information about the President's Club,
contact Mary Pat Angelini, executive director & CEO,
at 732.663.1800 ext 215 or*



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Building Resiliency Workshop Series is Successful

In March 2005, Prevention First received a September 11 recovery grant from the American Red Cross Liberty Disaster Relief Fund to provide professional training for professionals and caregivers who have frequent contact with children, youth and young adults who were directly exposed to the events of 9/11. The primary purpose of this grant is to provide one statewide conference and fourteen specialized workshops for adults who have contact with New Jersey children directly exposed to 9/11. The targeted population includes school and college personnel, such as teachers, principals, nurses and social workers, clergy and youth workers, substance abuse and mental health professionals, parents and guardians. The primary project strategy is to provide accredited training for professionals and caregivers who deal with affected youth to increase their skills in addressing 9/11 trauma.



The audience at the statewide conference enjoys the exceptional presentation from Dr. Mark Lerner..

To date, Prevention First has provided training opportunities to over 775 adults involved in the lives of children and youth affected by 9/11 — 275 adults at a statewide conference, *Building Resiliency in Our Children and Families*, and 500 adults through 14 six-hour specialized workshops offered from November 2005 through March 2006.

Among the presenters at the statewide conference held in October were the two members of The God Squad – Msgr. Thomas Hartman and Rabbi Marc Gellman. The “Clerical Dream Team” addressed the spiritual and religious issues that affect Americans today and the importance of building resiliency in our children and families, especially in these times. Other keynote presenters included Dr. Mark Lerner, from the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress, and Dr. Robin Gurwitch, from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

For more information, contact Barbara Sprechman at 732.663.1800 ext. 211.

A Special Thank You



Prevention First would like to thank Becton, Dickinson and Company for their generous support which helped to underwrite this newsletter. BD is a medical technology organization serving healthcare institutions, life science researchers, clinical laboratories, industry and the general public. BD takes pride in their strong commitment to social responsibility which is reflected in their activities and partnerships with many U.S. and international non-profit agencies. Their goal is to work together to create stronger and healthier communities worldwide.



Our Mission

Prevention First is a non-profit agency dedicated to strengthening the foundations of children and families by empowering them to successfully handle difficult, everyday life situations and extraordinary challenges such as violence and substance abuse.

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Prevention First Resource Guide

ALCOHOL, DRUGS, TABACCO/NICOTINE & ADDICTION HOTLINES

Alcoholics Anonymous 800.245.1377 www.nnjaa.org

Alcohol Abuse 800.274.2042 www.ncadd.org

Al-Anon/Alateen 973.744.8686 www.nj-al-anon.org

Narcotics Anonymous 800.992.0401 www.na.org

Nar-Anon 800.238.2333 www.naranon.com

New Jersey Quitline 800.657.8677 www.nj.quitnet.com

Addictions Hotlines of New Jersey

800.238.2333 www.contactlines.org

PSYCHIATRIC CRISIS INTERVENTION

Centra State Mental Health Hotline

732.780.6023 www.centrastate.com

Emergency Line (Monmouth) 732.222.3030

Emergency Services Hotline

732.363.5322 www.sbhcs.com

Jersey Shore Medical Center

732.776.4555 www.meridianhealth.com

Monmouth Medical Center

732.923.6999 www.saintbarnabas.com

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Child Abuse (DYFS) 800.792.8610
www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dyfs

Domestic Violence Hotline

(Monmouth) 732.264.4111

National Child Abuse Hotline 800.422.4453

Parents Anonymous Helpline

800-843-5437 www.pa-of-nj.org

PREVENTION, INFORMATION, REFERRALS

Centra State Health Awareness Center 732.308.0570
www.centrastate.com

Child Assault Prevention

(Monmouth) 732.566.3397 www.scils.rutgers.edu

Prevention First (Monmouth)

732.663.1800 www.preventionfirst.net

PARENTING

Families Anonymous 800.736.9805
www.familiesanonymous.org

Family Support Center 800.372.6510
www.famiysupportnj.com

Parents/Family Anonymous Helpline 800.843.5437

RUNAWAY SERVICES

Runaway Switchboard (national) 800.621.4000
www.nrcrisisline.org

Youth Crisis and Runaway Hotline

(national) 800.448.4663 www.famvi.com

OTHER RESOURCES

Family and Children's Service 732.531.9111

N.J. Ease Senior Services Helpline

877.222.3737 www.hch.org

New Jersey Self-Help Clearinghouse

800.367.6274 www.njgroups.org

180 — Turning Lives Around

732.264.4111 www.180nj.org

Poison Control Hotline

800.222.1212 www.aapcc.org

Planned Parenthood

(Freehold) 732.431.1717

(Hazlet) 732.888.4900

www.plannedparenthood.org (national)

Women's Referral Central

800.322.8092 www.state.nj.us/victims/rapectrs.htm