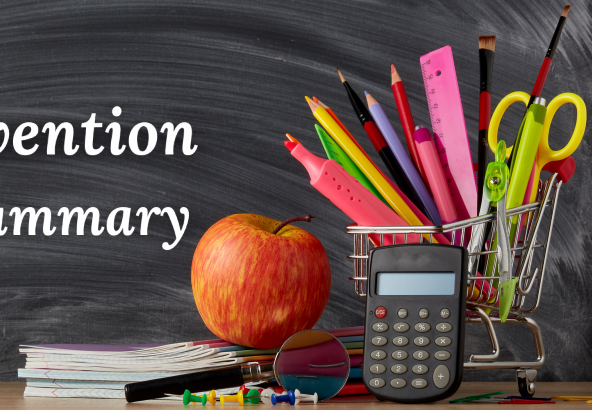


# Chemung County Prevention End of the School Year Summary 2022-23



June 26, 2023

## Year-End Highlights from Our School-Based Prevention Team



*Jessica Fierro*

Prevention Specialist

GST BOCES STEM Academy | Thomas A. Edison HS | Cohen Middle School  
Elmira City School District Elementary Schools | Horseheads Intermediate School

### GST BOCES STEM Academy:

I started out the year at STEM Academy teaching Life Skills for High School to all the Chapter 1 (9th grade) and 2 (10th grade) students. In the Spring semester, the Chapter 1 Health class students completed Too Good for Drugs/Social Perspectives, with many thanks to teacher Bob Demember for once again partnering with me.

Our Girl's Circle lunch groups started in the spring semester as well, and I saw much higher attendance than last year. Our lunch groups ended the school year with a Taylor Swift-themed ice cream party!

In March, I presented the opioid-based prevention curriculum This Is Not About Drugs, along with two of Chemung County's Peer Recovery Specialists. The program was so well-received by staff and students alike and we had a lot of positive feedback.

I was able to speak to several student's one-on-one who reached out for extra support to deal with decisions and concerns around substance use. Many thanks to Principal Miller, Social Worker Lauren Then and the STEM staff for their continued support of our programs!

### Heights Schools:

This school year, I was asked to come in once a week to Thomas Edison High School Health classes to present Life Skills, and in the spring, I continued with substance-specific lessons on vaping, marijuana use, opioids and other drugs of concern. Being at TAE allowed me to be available for a few Teen Intervenes as well.

At Cohen Middle School, the 8th grade Health students received prevention education during the last four weeks of the school year. In between the lessons, we took a day to use the Fatal Vision goggles and discussed the dangers of drunk driving.

I'm so grateful to Mrs. Southard-Twitchell and Mr. Wainright, as well as all the Heights staff, for understanding the importance of prevention work. I look forward to continuing to partner with the Elmira Heights District in the coming year!



*Anthony Hooks*

Community  
Prevention Specialist

I once again assisted with programming at GST BOCES STEM Academy, running a Boys' Council group during lunch. I had a great group of students this year and look forward to returning in the fall.

We also laid the groundwork for Drug Free Community Coalition Youth HUBs with students through the YAP program, as well as at STEM Academy.

These HUB locations will choose an area of community change to focus on and the students will be encouraged to create positive messages, events and outreach opportunities all on their own.

We're really looking forward to involving more area students in our efforts to build a healthy, safe, and positive community!

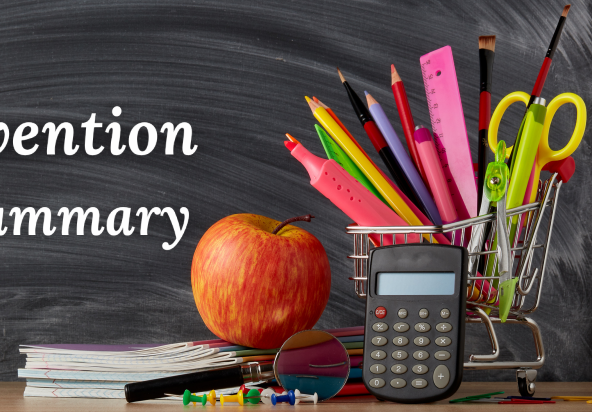
SCHOOL-BASED  
PREVENTION ED.



PARENT SUPPORT  
PREVENTION ED.



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## Year-End Highlights from Our School-Based Prevention Team



**Ashley Swanson**

Prevention Specialist

Broadway Academy | Ernie Davis Academy

This was my 4th year at Broadway Academy doing programming for CASA-Trinity!

I started off at Broadway and then in February took on Ernie Davis as well. I had the privilege of doing Lunch groups consisting of Life Skills and Girls Circle. In addition, I completed 26 Teen Intervenes this 2022-2023 School year.

It was a pleasure getting to know the students and staff at Broadway Academy and Ernie Davis Academy. All the administrators, guidance counselors and teachers and staff were very supportive of me and wonderful to work with!

I found the students were eager to learn, engaged, and curious about the topics we discussed. Hopefully with the topics we discussed it will help them to improve their life and make positive choices in the future.

In addition, I really enjoyed working with all different ages, and regardless of grade level, all the students showed a willingness to learn. I felt fully supported throughout the year and wanted to thank all the staff for their collaboration in working with these great students!

I hope you all have a wonderful summer, and I am looking forward to seeing you all again next year!

### Elmira High School

The 2022-23 year at Elmira High School saw a variety of Prevention programming take place. The majority of individual intervention programming was centered around Healthy Futures, a program designed to create awareness of the risks of e-cigarettes and vapes and help youth to weigh those risks to make better choices for themselves and their futures. A number of Teen Intervenes were also run for those students needing a more intensive focus on reasons for their use of substances and consideration of consequences of use and healthier alternatives.

Students also participated in Girls Circle/VOICES groups, and a single session Evidence Based program, SPORT, that lets students choose a positive health and wellness goal in any area of their life (including substance use).

Office Hours were provided for students looking for a safe and supportive place to find encouragement in academics, relationships, or more serious issues impacting them and creating heightened risk of turning to substances or other unhealthy coping mechanisms. Many students simply enjoyed eating lunch with a smaller group of peers.

We were very thankful for the support of EHS administration and staff during this past year and look forward to providing continued supports and programming in the coming school year! #expresstrong

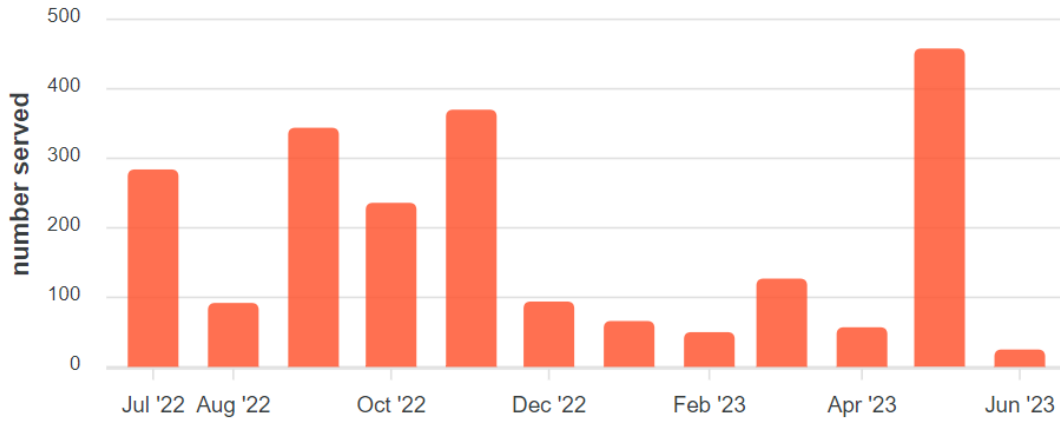
### Summer Activities for Families!

Our Prevention Education teams have been hard at work, creating a list of fun ideas for families with kiddos, to stay busy over Summer Break! From activities that you can do at home for little to no cost, to getting out and exploring things in your community or nearby county. This summer, we've got you covered!

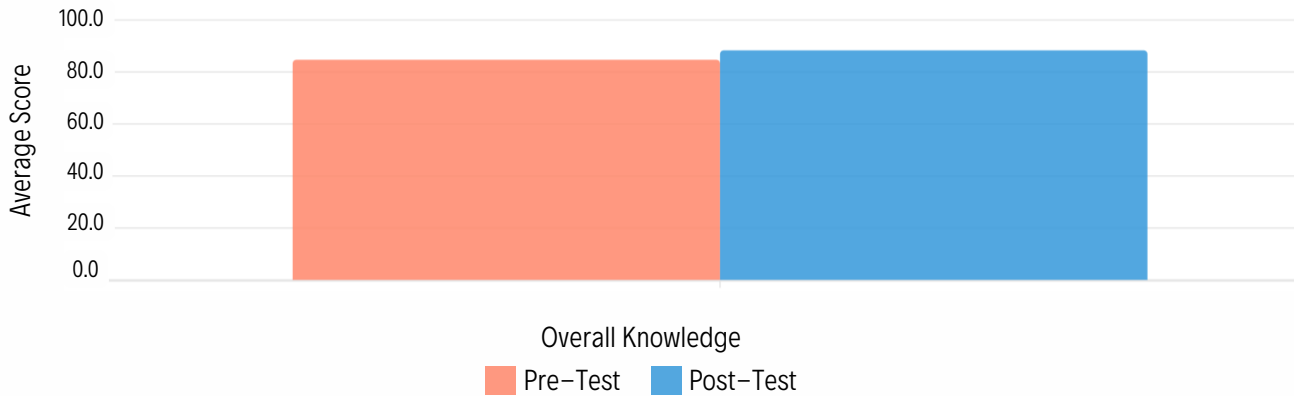


## A Quick Look at Our Outcomes:

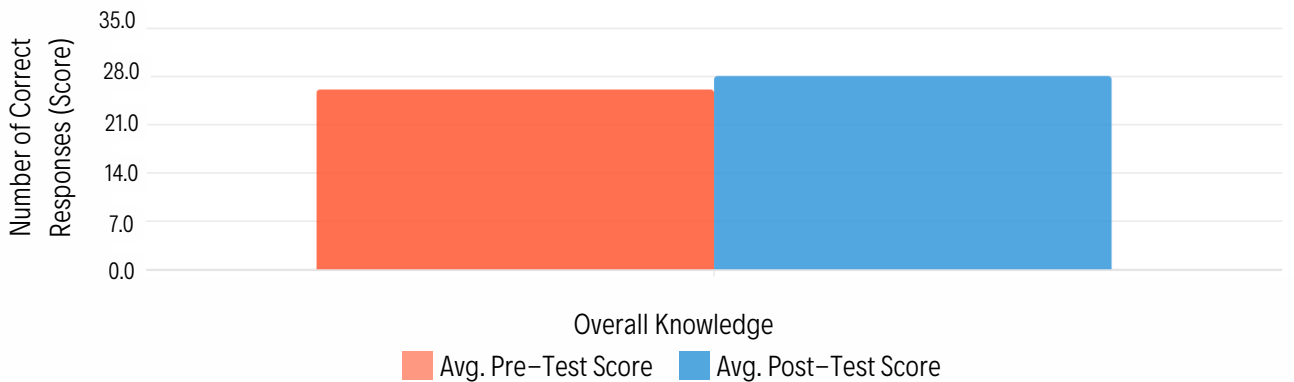
### Youth Served – Grades 5–12



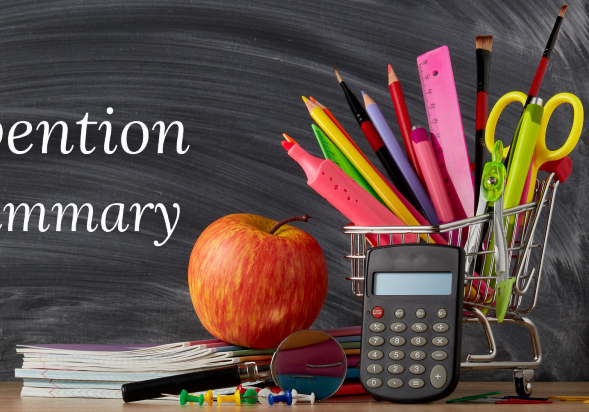
### Life Skills Outcomes – Grades 9–12



### Too Good for Drugs with Social Perspectives Outcomes HS Winter 2023



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## **SPOTLIGHT: Vaping Prevention**

This year, CASA-Trinity's Prevention Team once again returned to the Elmira City School District Elementary Schools and Horseheads Intermediate School to present **CATCH My Breath**, a vaping prevention program.

We met with 5th and 6th graders to discuss the health risks of vaping, as well as the social costs and various consequences of nicotine addiction. We also discussed how to manage stress in healthy ways, and how to push back against the lies that Big Tobacco tells youth regarding nicotine use.

As always, the staff at each school we visited were supportive and welcoming, and the ECSD and Horseheads students were fabulous participants. By the end of each program, several students expressed their decision to never vape or smoke!

We hope to continue this program in our area elementary schools in the coming school year. The earlier we can help students make healthy decisions, the better!



**To Learn More About  
Our School-Based  
Prevention Programs,  
Contact:**

*Erin Doyle, BS, CPP*

Chemung Prevention Supervisor  
AIR Chemung Youth Clubhouse Supervisor  
DFCC Coordinator | CASA-Trinity, Inc.  
edoyle@casa-trinity.org | (607) 846-3947

## **GST BOCES Counselor's Summit 2023**

In March of this year, Chemung Co. Prevention Specialist Jessica Fierro, along with Christina Olevano of Tioga County Prevention, had the opportunity to speak to Guidance Counselors and Social Workers in the GST BOCES network during their Counselor's Summit.

Jessica and Christina highlighted the protective factors that help students make safer health decisions, and were able to talk to many local social workers and guidance counselors about how CASA-Trinity's programs can help them in this work.

Many thanks to BOCES Assistant Superintendent of Instruction Sarah Vakkas for inviting us to speak!

*Hope begins here.*

*Thank  
you!*

**CASA**  **TRINITY**  
COUNCIL ON ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
WWW.CASA-TRINITY.ORG |   @CASATRINITY |  @CASA-TRINITY



**For Partnering with CASA-Trinity, and for everything you do to make our  
community a healthier place! Enjoy the Summer! See You Next Fall!**