

## PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

SACs provide the district with a wide array of prevention activities in support of national and state awareness campaigns, such as:

- Red Ribbon Week
- Great American Smoke Out
- World AIDS Day
- Violence Awareness Week



**Together with community partners the Newark Public Schools Student Assistance Program is growing and expanding to meet the changing needs of the youth in Newark.**

## NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT ASSISTANCE COORDINATORS

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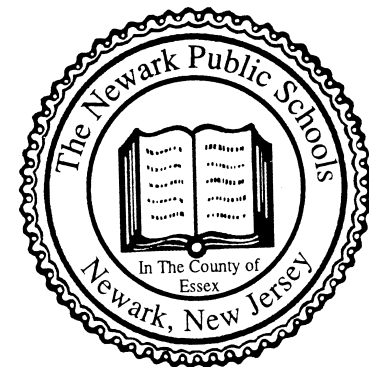
**For Assistance, Call  
(973) 733-7201**

## NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

### STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SAFE AND DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS

**2005-2006**

**Marion A. Bolden,  
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Office of Health and Physical  
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The Newark Public Schools Student Assistance Program supports the right of every child to learn and achieve academic success by attending a safe and drug-free school. The district recognizes that this is a complex problem that must be addressed utilizing education, prevention, intervention and referral, staff development and parent workshops.

The district employs Student Assistance Coordinators (SACs) who specialize in reaching students through individual/group counseling, classroom presentations, the coordination of assembly programs & various other building & community events designed to prevent substance use and violence. Classroom presentations are in accordance with the NJ Core Curriculum Standards & NJ Curriculum Frameworks. In addition, SACs serve as a resource to school administration, staff & parents regarding alcohol, tobacco & other drugs, HIV/AIDS & violence-related behavior.



## WHAT IS A STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM?

A Student Assistance Program (SAP) aims to identify troubled students so they can receive the helping services they need. The Student Assistance Coordinator helps students who are dealing with a variety of personal problems, including those related to alcohol, drugs and HIV/AIDS. The Student Assistance Program is not a disciplinary program and teachers who refer students to the program are not getting students into trouble.



## WHAT DOES THE NEWARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PROVIDE?

- Student and family referrals
- Dissemination of information to staff and students
- Individual and group counseling
- Life skills training
- Interventions for at-risk behaviors
- Education through community and social service agencies
- Gang and violence prevention initiatives
- Skills in decision-making and conflict resolution
- District staff development

## HOW DO I REFER A STUDENT WHEN I AM CONCERNED?

A student may request services on his/her own or be referred by a peer, teacher, other staff member or parent. There is a simple referral form that can be obtained from a district Student Assistance Coordinator or the building's Drug Review Committee.

Once a student is referred, a careful assessment of his/her needs is performed and recommendations are made to the student, parents, and/or staff. SACs provide skilled consultation to staff in recognizing signs and symptoms of students in need of services.

