

Youth Prevention Specialist

Youth Empowerment and Policy Project (YEPP) members will work with a group of youth from across the state to develop *findings and recommendations* on alcohol and drug policy issues. They will become familiar with school, law enforcement and marketing policy and be able to discuss these issues in a variety of settings. Members will work with people in their local community prevention coalition to enact policy change in their local community. They will become youth advocates and spokespeople for local policy changes.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

- Attend scheduled meetings, one meeting each month, work with other members on policy issues and to practice advocacy skills.
- Meetings are typically held in the Waterville area on weekends during the school year, on Saturday or Sunday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. These are a high priority and attendance is expected.
- Work closely with partner contacts in the local community prevention coalition.
- Attend coalition meetings or other meeting with local policy makers.
- Advocate for policy changes in your school, with local law enforcement or local merchants selling alcohol.
- Prepare reports on local activities that members participate in.
- Be interviewed by the project evaluator.
- Participate in local and state events to promote the policy work of the group.

Desired Youth Characteristics:

- High School Students
- Clean and sober life style
- Interest in community service
- Interest in alcohol and drug prevention
- Ability to work with a group of people
- Interest in and willingness to speak in groups
- Self-starter and ability to work with limited supervision
- Dedicated and Reliable

Benefits:

Members are paid \$9 an hour for project work plus reimbursement for approved expenses. Members work approximately 70+ hours each year. Members will get extensive training on presentation skills, advocacy and community organization. Members may get community service credit through their local high school. Members get the satisfaction of being a member of a very select group of Maine youth and the satisfaction of making a difference in their communities.