



# Saving Teens<sup>®</sup> in crisis collaborative

## 2014 Annual Report

SavingTeens<sup>®</sup>  
in crisis collaborative

website: [www.savingteens.org](http://www.savingteens.org)

facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Saving-Teens-in-Crisis-Collaborative/133269186708697>

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\* The Youth Risk Behavior Survey was created in 1990 to monitor priority health risk behaviors that contribute markedly to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The survey is completed biannually on the national level.

## Did you know?

According to the 2013 National YRBS\* Survey:

**17.9%** of adolescents had carried a weapon

**24.7%** had been in a physical fight one or more times

**18.6%** of students had drunk alcohol for the first time before age 13

**20.8%** had five or more drinks in a row in 1 day

**6.1%** reported the largest number of drinks they had in a row was 10 or more

**23.4%** of young people had used marijuana

**2.2%** had used heroin **5.5%** had used a form of cocaine

**17.8%** had taken unprescribed prescription drugs

**29.9%** had felt so sad almost every day for 2 or more weeks that they stopped doing usual activities

**17%** had seriously considered attempting suicide

**13.6%** had made a plan about how they would attempt suicide

SavingTeens' mission is to assist troubled teens and their families struggling with these risky behaviors. Your continued support saves kids every day.

## Our Story



Dear Friends,

Ten years ago I had an epiphany around the difficulties of raising a troubled teen. As a parent, the interventions I accessed, including wilderness programming, therapeutic boarding schools, and after care really did work. In parallel it became clear that this level of care was not accessible to the vast majority of struggling families.

Subsequently I attended an Independent Educational Consultant Association (IECA) conference and enlisted the help of some caring professionals to collaborate to try and make a difference. We started SavingTeens to provide scholarships and support for those families who need a comprehensive solution for their children but do not have the funds necessary to access the care they need. I would be remiss if I did not thank these educational consultants, program leadership, and parents that are the foundation of SavingTeens.

Saving Teens In Crisis Collaborative (SavingTeens) growth can only truly be measured by the number of families we have helped. All of us at SavingTeens are motivated to do even better because the need for financial support for these families is overwhelming. Our primary source of support is and always has been the generosity of industry professionals, volunteers, and philanthropic donors. As we move forward we are constantly looking for more effective ways to transfer that kindness to young people on the road to recovery, and best leverage your valuable time, donations, and scholarships.

Ten years is a long time. Some of our "kids" are now parents themselves! A great deal has transpired for all of us, a great deal has changed, for all of us. But some things haven't. All of you in this community are still giving, caring, people and that is so evident in my interactions with you. Your love for these kids and their families are the fuel that drives SavingTeens.

Looking ahead, the number of families in need remains incredibly large. For that reason we continue to ask for more support. Whether you are a long time supporter, or just learning about SavingTeens, you can make a difference. Your time, your donation, your services, we need them all and the more the better. Our promise to you is that we will do everything within our power to best utilize what you are so kindly providing.

Thank you all for everything you have given us over the last ten years. On a personal level I am overwhelmed by how much working with all of you has meant to all of us at SavingTeens.

—John Reuben, Founder

## Measures of Success

**SavingTeens in Crisis Collaborative**  
(SavingTeens) is proud to report the following accomplishments in 2014.

**SavingTeens General Support:** Through our comprehensive, multi-phase solution for struggling teens, SavingTeens was able to connect three families with appropriate therapeutic interventions. SavingTeens volunteers continue to work with our families to ensure that their child is getting the help they need.

**SavingTeens Thomas E. Bratter Scholarship:** In March of 2014, SavingTeens established the Thomas E. Bratter Scholarship Fund. This scholarship, administered by SavingTeens, focuses on supporting bright but troubled teens attending college preparatory therapeutic boarding schools with a track record of sending their graduates to four year colleges. We are excited to share that we awarded our first Bratter Scholarship at the end of 2014.

**Partnership & Ambassador Program:** We strengthened our collaborations with industry professionals. Through our comprehensive outreach, SavingTeens Partnerships allow programs to offer scholarships to SavingTeens families. We have also enrolled leading educational consultants to serve as volunteer SavingTeens Ambassadors. These professionals serve as a clearinghouse for needy families and connect them with SavingTeens Partner Programs.

**Improved Infrastructure:** 2014 was a transformative year for SavingTeens organizational development. SavingTeens launched a new website and have improved our communication by posting frequent e-mail blasts, newsletters, and press releases. This has resulted in better collaboration among all involved with SavingTeens.

## Goals for the Coming Year

**SavingTeens has set lofty goals for the coming years. As we grow, we intend to address the following needs.**

**Increased Efficiency in our Application Process:** In 2015, we have improved our application process. We've enlisted a group of leading educational consultants to serve as SavingTeens Ambassadors to refer and screen at-risk families. This more efficient process will insure timely communications and appropriate matches with SavingTeens Partner Programs.

**Expanding our Team:** Entering our second decade of service, we are developing new opportunities for passionate volunteers. Our plans include broadening our volunteer base, and supporting a growing number of fundraising events. Our goal is to expand the reach of philanthropy throughout the therapeutic care community.

We are evaluating a broader reach into the adolescent addiction community. We are increasingly concerned about the problem of addiction in adolescents. SavingTeens will spend the next year networking with professionals who are experts in this field to develop a comprehensive plan and partnership

# Donors

## \$5,000 and above

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2014 Golf Tournament in Las Vegas

## \$100 - \$249

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Susan, Steven, Nicole, and Alexandra  
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## Donors (continued)

### up to \$99

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2014 Golf Tournament in Las Vegas

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## SavingTeens 2014 Sponsors

|                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| AIM House                     | Center for Safe Youth       |
| Pacific Quest                 | Sand Hill Center            |
| Aspiro Adventure              | Open Sky Wilderness         |
| Second Nature Wilderness      | Gateway Academy             |
| Aspen Education Group         | Taos Renewal                |
| Red Cliff Ascent              | Prepare to Bloom LLC        |
| Newport Academy               | Turning Point Extended Care |
| Spring Ridge Academy          | New Summit Academy          |
| Building Bridges Inc.         | Vive Family Support Program |
| New Vision Wilderness         | Dimple Dell Canyon          |
| Solstice                      | Expedition Therapy          |
| InnerChange                   | Save Guard                  |
| Visions Teen                  | Hero House                  |
| New Roads Treatment Centers   | The Mann Family             |
| Montcalm School               | The Bertram Group           |
| Bill Lane & Associates        | Life Designs Inc.           |
| True North Wilderness Program | US Transport Services       |
| CERTS                         | Benchmark Transitions       |



2014 Annual Gala in Las Vegas

## How to Help

### As an individual, you can help SavingTeens by:

**Donate to SavingTeens:** Please consider SavingTeens for your philanthropic endeavors. A gift to SavingTeens helps send more young people to therapeutic schools and programs. A donation to SavingTeens in lieu of gifts or flowers can be a meaningful way to show your commitment to the cause. Every gift will be acknowledged to both the donor and the honoree and is tax deductible.

**Plan a Fundraising Event:** Run or raise money in our honor, or plan an event of your own. If you have a great idea for a fundraiser for SavingTeens, please contact Carrie at [c.weatherhead@savingteens.org](mailto:c.weatherhead@savingteens.org). We will assist by sending you promotional material and giving SavingTeens info for your event.

**Spread the Word:** Tell your friends about SavingTeens and the important work that we do. Offer to volunteer at local SavingTeens events or fundraisers. If you'd like to learn more about being an ambassador for SavingTeens please feel free to contact us.

For more information about SavingTeens, and how you can help, please visit our website: [www.savingteens.org](http://www.savingteens.org)

Saving Teens In Crisis Collaborative is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed in April 2004 to assist troubled teens and their families struggling with substance abuse and other emotional issues.

## Testimonials

"It's a pleasure to work with an organization that commits to a true collaborative mission in order to develop philanthropy in the therapeutic community. SavingTeens builds a safety net around the most needy families."

-Program Director

"Our family is so much more whole than a year ago and we have Saving Teens to thank for it. Our entire community is inspired by the skill, the love, and the generosity of Saving Teens. Saving Teens was the turning tide for us. May their great work continue to thrive!"

-SavingTeens Family

"SavingTeens helps programs and consultants and parents come together in a collaborative effort all for the good of helping save more lives; making it bigger and better so that we're helping one kid at a time, to three kids at a time, to ten kids at a time and onward."

-Educational Consultant