



YOUR COMMUNITY

News for and about leaders in alcohol and other drug prevention

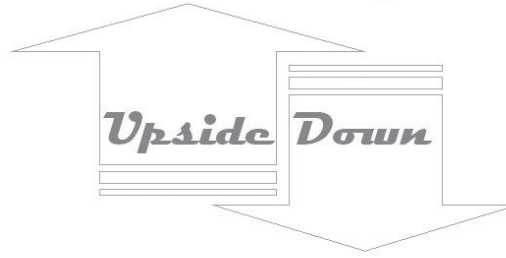
Fall 2006

Issue #61

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Operation Snowball
can turn the whole thing...



Who's to say
what's impossible...

Attend the 16th Annual
OS, Inc.
Snowbusiness
Conference

The 16th Annual Snowbusiness Conference will be held on Friday, September 29, 2006 at the Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Center in Lisle, IL. Dan Davis will explore origins and significances of life experiences. M.O.O.M.B.A., "My Only Obstacle Must Be Attitude" is a thunderstorm of information and stories that will elicit human change to all who hear Dan present.

Workshop topics will include: Dan Davis, Chalk Talks; Richard Oberbruner, The Power of Improv; Pat Gerber, Boomwhackers; Response Center, Stress Management; Tom Boz, Teambuilding; Janet Williams, Alcohol Policies, and networking sessions for each model.

The conference provides networking opportunities and workshops for both youth and adults so they can build healthy communities through substance abuse prevention.

A poster session will be part of the conference. Posters should be a graphic presentation of your chapter's prevention efforts and activities. Posters should consist of sections that provide text, photos, graphics and different pieces of information. Posters should be no larger than 4 feet by 6 feet and must be freestanding. Handouts may also be distributed.

A \$35.00 registration fee includes conference materials, continental breakfast, lunch and a special gift. You may download a registration brochure by visiting www.os-iti.org and selecting the link at the top. Register by calling Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301, extension 18 or mpeavy@iadda.org.

Happy Fall, Prevention Friends!

This past few weeks have been both challenging and rewarding. I have had my ankle replaced – listen to that – not just surgery. My ankle was taken out and replaced with a prosthetic device, my tibia and fibula braced with plates, and my life will be forever changed for the positive as long as I am willing to show my gratefulness for the miracle through special attention and years of hard, physical therapy.

I opened my eyes post-surgery to a very worried but hope filled husband. Mike let me know that he had called as many of my friends as possible from the list I had created for him pre-surgery. He also said he had fielded out about a million calls from well-wishing buddies and pals.

The first day in the hospital I received 8 flower arrangements, a basket of fruit, more chocolate than can be imagined and several adorable, stuffed animals. Days following were filled with visitors, gifts of books, toys and magazines. When I got home, food dropped off by friends and neighbors overwhelmed our refrigerator and was being stored on our counterspace. Some friends stayed for a few hours, one friend spent a few days. All intended to find a way to make my recovery easier. I have experienced two weeks of community of caring, the real meaning of Operation Snowball.

Operation Snowball is about a process of reaching out to others with fun, food and facts. It means that we work to create a change in how we treat each other, how we react to problems, and how we look beyond ourselves.

It is my hope that each of you who are responsible for carrying the Snowball message and modeling its concepts put your everyday efforts into helping others to always feel loved; to always feel better.

Each day I show more improvement, but it's a long process to full recovery.

At each Operation Snowball event we see changes in our participants but Snowball is a process. I hope that as you move toward your Snowball event for school year '06-'07 that you can apply the community of caring framework; the same one I have felt so profoundly as I heal.

Thanks to all of you for your good wishes. I hope to see you at Snowbusiness on September 29. We expect to have some great speakers, good information and plenty of time to network.

Charla Waxman
Chair

Join the Planning Committee for the Central Illinois Mid-Level Institute

The Central Illinois MLI is getting ready to kick off the planning process for the spring '07 event. Both youth and adults are invited to participate in the planning process by developing workshop topics, selecting speakers, developing a theme and logo, promoting the Mid-Level to eligible youth and staff members, updating the program curricula, and coordinating a six month reunion for participants.

We ask that committee members commit to participating either in person at the IADDA office in Springfield or via conference call in one meeting per month—specific meeting dates and times will be communicated to committee members.

Please contact Jennifer Marwick at 217.528.7335 ext. 13 or jmarwick@iadda.org with any questions or to RSVP your participation.

2006 Illinois Teen Institute Camp Review

High summer temperatures could not put a damper on the excitement of the 2006 Illinois Teen Institute which was held on the campus of Monmouth College July 16-20. The event projected a slightly different flare at its new location and featured many new speakers, interactive activities and educational sessions for the nearly 400 energetic youth and adult attendees.

Again this year, participants (including 10 teams and the newly developed Second Year Participant group) came together for one exciting session of motivation, education, action planning and of course, fun. Making this possible were more than 100 scholarship providers including major supporters the Illinois Sheriffs' Association, Chicago Public Schools and the Illinois Department of Human Services.

IADDA thanks all of the volunteer staff for their hard work and dedication. We also congratulate all the participants who attended ITI and encourage you to not forget to take the message of ITI back home and positively impact your community by implementing your action plan. As you

complete the steps of your action plan, send your information, pictures or write-up to IADDA at 937 South Second Street, Springfield, Illinois 62704, ATTN: IMPACT or email them to iadda@iadda.org. IADDA recognizes the efforts and successes of CAT teams through articles in this newsletter and both one CAT Team and one individual will be honored

at the closing ceremonies of ITI 2007 with an Achievement Award for their hard work and dedication.

Applications for the 2007 Institute will be available in hard copy and on the web in January. We hope to see you next year for another record breaking event!

Leadership Team Applications Available

Leadership Team Applications for ITI 2007 are now available. These applications are available to anyone who has staffed ITI for 2 or more years and the deadline is January 1, 2007. Available Leadership Team positions are: Co-Director, Consultant, Administrative Coordinator and Activity Coordinator.

Leadership Team responsibilities include: participating in the planning process for ITI, attending the Leadership Retreat June 22-24, 2007, attending staff training and ITI, attending the Leadership Debriefing on September 8, 2007 and fulfilling

all obligations and responsibilities associated with the Leadership position assigned.

If you are interested in serving as a Leadership Team Member for 2007, please contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301 ext. 18 for an application, or visit the web at www.os-iti.org.

Interview Sites

IADDA is seeking interested ITI/prevention veterans who would be willing to serve as an interview site for staff and PALS (returning youth) interviews. Interviews help determine an applicant's competence, desire and ability to fulfill their role and support the goals and philosophy of the



Institute during ITI. Interview sites play a very important role as IADDA's eyes and ears in the field by recruiting and screening applicants for their "fit" into the ITI program and they assist in maintaining the high standards and expectations that participants in ITI have come to expect over the last 30 years.

If you would like to be an interview site, or have any questions about this role, please contact Tabitha Holt at 800.252.6301 ext. 15 or tholt@iadda.org.

Planning Meetings

All volunteer staff, ITI participants, preventionists and individuals interested in improving the Institute program are invited to participate in the planning process for the 2007 Illinois Teen Institute. Planning Meetings have been scheduled for November 4, 2006 and March 3, 2007. Format for these meetings is still being determined, but please block out from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. if you are planning on participating. Please contact the IADDA office or visit the website at www.os-iti.org at a later date for more details and instructions.

Attendees will have the opportunity to reflect on the Institute, make recommendations for changes and improvements to ITI, and participate in workgroups including Institute Development, the PALS Program and Marketing.

Please RSVP by calling 800.252.6301 ext. 52 or by emailing iadda@iadda.org if you will be attending the meetings or are interested in participating in a workgroup.



ITI would like to thank the scholarship providers for 2006.

Our Largest Providers

Illinois Sheriff's Association
 Illinois Department of Human Services
 Chicago Public Schools
 Elmwood Park High School

\$1000 - \$5000

Downers Grove South HS
 Alton CUSD 11
 I-KAN ROE
 Bremen Community High School

\$500 - \$1000

TOUCH
 Sterling High School
 Marquette High School
 Homewood-Flossmoor Operation Snowball
 Lockport Township High School
 LaSalle County State's Attorney
 Menard County School & Community Task Force
 Riverside Brookfield Township HS
 Levi Ray & Shoup
 Vernon Hills High School
 Oak Lawn Community High School
 Effingham County Youth Commission
 InTouch PSA 11
 VFW Post 454
 Family Service and Mental Health Center of Oak Park/River Forest
 Geneva Police Department
 Hoffman Estates High School
 Jersey Community High School TATU

\$300 - \$400

Highland CUSD 5 LifeSavers
 Dwight D. Eisenhower Community HS Dist. 218
 Paul Gargula

James Svitak
 Sullivan CUSD 300
 Suzanne Brill
 Glenn Hahn
 Brian Wirtas
 Orland Park Police Department
 FOP Lodge #276
 Deborah Elmore
 Tough Love in Washington

\$200 - \$300

Family Services of McHenry County
 New Berlin High School
 St. Patrick's Church
 Metamora Operation Snowball
 Andrew Banas
 Metamora Women's Club
 Nazareth Academy
 Bartonville Grade School PTO
 Frank Puglessi
 Elgin HS Drug Prevention Club
 John McMahan
 Edward Szymanski
 Russell Williams
 William Arnold
 Knights of Columbus, Council 665
 Louis Mehl Jr.
 Wayne Schell
 Township of Lyons
 Clarendon Hills Women's Club
 Siemer Milling Company
 Mark Selvaggio
 Steven Industries
 Township of Downers Grove
 Chestnut Health Systems
 School District U-46
 Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women
 Effingham Community Unit 40
 Effingham Women of Today
 Stephen Douglas
 Alton Steel Inc.
 Altamont Lions Club

Under \$200

Craig Greene
 Diana Defilippo-Greene
 Jerseyville Kiwanis Club
 Antonio Galan
 Jose Arriaga
 Maria Mercado
 Emily Vincent
 Midland States Bank
 Larry Eason
 Steven Dyer
 Connie Ivan
 Elizabeth Janicek
 Patricia Rodriguez
 Beta Sigma Phi
 Elks Lodge 954
 Wheaton Warrenville Operation Snowball
 Wal-Mart Supercenter
 Effingham American Legion Post 120
 VOLUME
 Thomas Pichman
 Roy Rogers, II
 Susan French
 Double Double, Inc.
 Dan Park
 Rodney Pilz
 Arthur Paul
 Joe Pesavento
 Joyce Hertko
 Mr. Jeff Miller
 Greg Lorenz
 Mary Fran Mali
 Andy Arnston
 John Muren
 Glenn Vanmoffaert
 Jeff Crater
 Walter Ginauskas
 Muggs Mali
 Shawn Monroe
 Nick Vulgaris

Operation Snowball Recognition Awards

In an effort to recognize all of the hard work and dedication that is happening in the local chapters and communities with the Operation Snowball program, Operation Snowball, Inc. and the Board of Directors are accepting nominations for awards. This award program recognizes an outstanding youth and adult leader in Snowball and Snowflake chapters, outstanding young adult, outstanding Snowball and Snowflake chapters, outstanding support from a community organization/business, outstanding support from a school and outstanding Board of Directors' member.

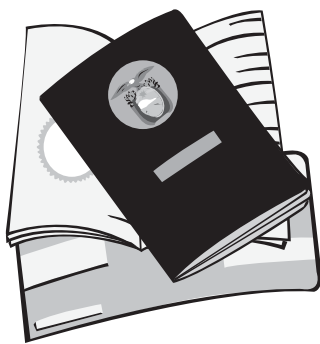


These awards will be announced and presented on September 29, 2006 at the Snowbusiness Conference in Pontiac, Illinois. Please visit www.os-iti.org for a full list of award criteria and application or call 800/252-6301, extension 18.

OS Youth and Adults Go to Poland

Submitted by Beth Szymanski

Over the summer, former teen directors, Jessica and Shannon Lancaster, their mother, Dr. Michelle Lancaster, Snowball director, Linda Savick, guidance counselor, Ron Centanni and myself, present teen director, Beth Szymanski from Marion Catholic High School Operation Snowball went to Zawiercie, Poland to help the Snowball staff there with their first Snowball. We worked with a staff consisting of Polish and Lithuanian students and adults who had previously attended Snowballs. The camp was a week long because it was not only a Snowball camp, but also a camp for students learning to speak English. We presented workshops on learning to say "no," tobacco, alcoholic families, Fish philosophy, Taw Kwon Do, relaxation and feelings. We also played games, sang songs and performed the "Turnaround" and other skits. However, they were not the only ones who learned new things. They taught us new games, skits and workshops that we could use at home. I think I speak for all of us when I say that it was an amazing experience. We got to meet new people, learn about their culture, learn a little bit of Polish (while getting laughed at for our pronunciations) and most importantly spread Snowball to more of the world. All of us would jump at the chance to do this again.



October Red Ribbon Week

Keep the ball rolling...celebrate Red Ribbon week! Chapters are encouraged to plan and/or participate in the annual Red Ribbon campaign. Use this opportunity to get the Snowball mission out and recruit youth and adult members.

Support Operation Snowball, Inc. and purchase Red Ribbon Week items from Prevention Partners. Go to <http://www.preventionpartners.org/os> to order supplies.

Seeking OS Board Nominations

Operation Snowball is looking for qualified individuals to represent their chapter and district by serving a two-year term for the OS Board of Directors. Operation Snowball chapters are divided into ten districts. Each accredited OS chapter is assigned to a district based on their location. Each district then elects one person to the Operation Snowball, Inc. Board of Directors every two years. Two people are also elected to at-large seats that provide additional regional representation to the board. Every chapter has the right to nominate and vote for the board member of their choice in their district.

This year, nominations will be accepted for OS Board seats in districts At this time, districts 1, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 11 are up for election for two-year terms and district 2 for a one-year term. Please note that district 11 is an at-large district representing districts 3, 4, and 6. Nominations will be mailed in October. Elections will be held in December. Operation Snowball has a very dedicated and hard-working Board of Directors. If a chapter has a concern or question, or needs assistance, a board member is available to provide that assistance. Board members serve your chapter's needs. For more information, contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301, ext. 18 or mpeavy@iadda.org.

OS Chapter News

Submitted by Jack Irwin, International OS chapter

On August 6th a reunion was held for those participating in the Greater Fox River Valley (GFRV) Operation Snowball between the late 80's and the 90's. Around 45 former participants attended along with an equal number of significant others, spouses, and children. One former participant came from Baltimore, MD just for the event and said that he considered the event his 10th class reunion because the Snowballers, were his real friends. One couple, both former Snowballers, came from Ohio with their four children under 6.

The reunion was held at the Batavia Boat Club which is the site of the Snowball meetings at the time these young people were involved. It was like going home for many of us.

It was a wonderful afternoon with Snowballers talking about old times and catching up. Everyone brought a dish to pass and the International Snowball provided the hamburgers and hot dogs.

A whip around was planned, but it was quickly cancelled because it would have interfered with all the good conversations which were taking place.

Natalie Groot Assell and Dana Helzing MacDonald made a scrapbook for the event with many memories and photos of GFRV Snowball. Two videos ran for the afternoon which were made in the early 90's. Several young adults brought photo albums of their weddings and family.



One former teen director said that he could tell that he handled difficulties in his life far more effectively than many of his non-Snowball friends.

"I really believe that Snowball taught me to believe in myself, stand up for myself, be encouraging to others, and to let the important people in my life know they are important. You can consider me a success story!" wrote one of the former Snowballers who could not attend the event.



Another out of state Snowballer wrote: "Unfortunately we do not have Snowball here. And I really don't know why. It should be everywhere. Maybe someday I will have enough spunk to start a chapter."

Another wrote, "I find it ironic that I met and married the same type of person that mentored me through high school."

Yet another, "...when I think about my time and the friends I made in Snowball, the memories are so powerful they hurt."

And from a veteran adult staff volunteer, "I would have never guessed that I would even be on staff when I was on my first event as an adult participant. Neither would I have guessed the impact it would have on our family. I firmly believe.. [Snowball] saved...[our daughter's].. life as she shared some things with us for the very first time after the *It's a Wonderful Life* general session and we were able to get her

help....eventually she joined staff and [went on to become] a Co-Teen Director.

The comments about Snowball and its meaning in their lives gave us increased determination to spread the program all over the world. Seeing and listening to these successful, competent young adults certainly creates an incredible 'natural high' for everyone involved in Snowball programs.



OS Program Update

- **NEW!** A youth-led environmental prevention strategies program aimed at reducing underage drinking. A curriculum and training have been developed. Several chapters are scheduled to be trained in September. Copies of the curriculum will be mailed to each chapter soon. If you are interested in receiving training and implementing strategies in your school or communities please contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301, ext. 18.
- **NEW!** Alumni-Friends of Snowball section of the web site (www.os-iti.org). Connect with others who are and have in the past participated in Operation Snowball. Be sure to post your story in the Warm Fuzzies section!
- The *Monthly Planner and Activity Guide* for the year was mailed to each chapter contact in August. Use this guide to plan year-round prevention programming.
- Another useful tool is the Prevention Resource Guide and the Resource CD. Each chapter should have one copy of each in its possession.
- OS, Inc. has implemented an internet-based network for distribution of important calls to action, alerts, notices, news and updates. Please visit www.os-iti.org and select the join listserv link to join the network. All chapter members are invited to join.
- OS, Inc. is looking for chapters to host future trainings. Locations should be able to accommodate 20-40 participants and have room for group activities. Topics include Reducing Underage Drinking with Environmental Strategies, Staff Training, Best Practices for Implementing OS, Facilitation Skills, Media Literacy, and FISH! just to name a few. If you are interested in hosting a training please contact OS, Inc. at 800.252.6301, ext. 18.

SNOWMENTUM

The following is a list of Operation Snowball chapter events, trainings, conferences and board meetings. Also, included are the Illinois Teen Institute planning meeting and event dates.

September 29, 2006

OS Snowbusiness 16 Conference
Hickory Ridge Marriott Conference Center, Lisle, IL
Contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301 ext. 18 or mpeavy@iadda.org

October 5-8, 2006

District 230 Operation Snowball
Contact Jacki Frederking at 708.974.7454

November 4, 2006

ITI Planning Meeting
Location TBD
Contact Jennifer Marwick at 800.252.6301 ext. 13 or jmarwick@iadda.org

December 9, 2006

OS Board of Directors Meeting
Chestnut Health Systems, Bloomington, IL
Contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301 ext. 18 or mpeavy@iadda.org

February 23-25, 2007

OS Board of Directors Meeting/Retreat
Location TBD
Contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301 ext. 18 or mpeavy@iadda.org

March 1-4, 2007

District 230 Operation Snowball
Contact Jacki Frederking at 708.974.7454

March 3, 2007

ITI Planning Meeting
Location TBD
Contact Jennifer Marwick at 800.252.6301 ext. 13 or jmarwick@iadda.org

April 14, 2007

OS Board of Directors Meeting
Chestnut Health Systems, Bloomington, IL
Contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301 ext. 18 or mpeavy@iadda.org

Dates TBD

Central Illinois MLI
Nazarene Acres, Springfield
Contact Jennifer Marwick at 217.528.7335 ext. 13 or jmarwick@iadda.org

June 16, 2007

OS Board of Directors Meeting
Chestnut Health Systems, Bloomington, IL
Contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301 ext. 18 or mpeavy@iadda.org

June 22-24, 2007

ITI Leadership Retreat
Location TBD

July 15-19, 2007

ITI
Monmouth College, Monmouth Illinois
Contact ITI at 800.252.6301 ext. 52 or iadda@iadda.org

September 8, 2007

ITI Debriefing
Location TBD

September 29, 2007

MLI Reunion
Location TBD
Contact Jennifer Marwick at 217.528.7335 ext. 13 or jmarwick@iadda.org

*To submit a date please contact IADDA
at 800.252.6301,*

Operation Snowball Annual Chapter Survey

OS chapter contacts are asked annually to participate in a survey asking what activities the chapter has participating in, the number of participants, funding sources, topics, and how they have used OS, Inc. for technical assistance. The 2006 survey is now available on-line. Chapter contacts are asked to participate in the survey by visiting www.os-iti.org and click the survey link at the top. The survey includes questions that assist in the future planning of Operation Snowball. Your input is vital to the future success of OS!

Welcome New Chapter
Altmar-Parish-Williamstown in NY

IMPACT Your Community is a publication of Operation Snowball, Inc. and Illinois Teen Institute and is free of charge to subscribers.

IADDA Staff

CEO: Joe Anna Sullivan
Associate Director: Sara Moscato
Business Manager: Pel Thomas
Prevention Coordinator: Mary Jo Peavy
Special Events Coordinator: Jennifer Marwick
Administrative /Mail Room Coordinator: Tabitha Holt
Special Projects Coordinator: Peggie Powers

OS staff is provided through a contract between the Illinois Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Association and Operation Snowball, Inc.

IMPACT Your Community invites your comments, articles or photographs. An article must be submitted in typed, double-spaced format. Photos must include caption or an explanation of the event. Please direct articles or comments to:

Operation Snowball, Inc. / Illinois Teen Institute
937 South Second Street
Springfield, IL 62704
800-252-6301 or 217-528-7335
www.os-iti.org * iadda@iadda.org

Games Corner

Ring Tone Name Game

Submitted by Ron Jakubisin

This is a simple warm-up ice-breaker activity. As an ice-breaker the activity adds variety and interest to the normal personal introductions at the start of a training course or session. Introduce the activity by saying: “Ring tones are for many people an expression and extension of personality, so in getting to know everyone’s name, we may also see a bit of your personality.” Starting with yourself (as a role model) introduce yourself by saying “Hello, my name is _____, and my ringtone is _____”. The second person then repeats the person next to them: “This is _____, and his ringtone is _____, my name is _____, and my ringtone is _____.” Variations include: The person who’s turn it is has repeat everyone’s name/ ringtone from the beginning of the line, or to make it more group interactive the entire group responds after each introduction by saying: Hello _____, (and then repeats the ringtone in unison).

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Operation Snowball, Inc. Board of Directors: Charla Waxman, Chair; Ron Jakubisin, Past Chair; Marilee Muirhead, Vice Chair; Meredith Smietanski, Secretary; Amanda Carl, Treasurer; Adam Beaty, Amanda Freeman, Susie Hirshfeld, Alissa LaRose, and Jeff Weishaar, Youth Advocates; Karen Beverlin, Jason Bolden, Stephanie Decker, Megan Edmondson, Spike Grosshuesch, Rob Grupe, Laurie Hawley, Charles Patton, Breyn Puckett, Thomas Rogers and Mark Sanders Board Members.

Operation Snowball, Inc. / Illinois Teen Institute

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