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## **Greater Fox River Valley OS Supports Troops!**



The Greater Fox River Valley OS (GFRVOS) collected donated items for troops stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan. For two hours in August participants shopped at Batavia Jewel-Osco for items such as baby wipes, beef jerky/slim jims, canned fruit, pasta, energy bars, sunflower seeds, peanuts, chewing gum, hard candy, kool-aid, personal hygiene items, and more. Over 600 items were collected!

Big John Howell and Ramblin' Ray Stevens from radio station WUSN arrived at the Geneva Police Department on November 16, 2004 after learning that GFRVOS was having a problem shipping the supplies collected. They arrived in style via the US99 Big John and Ray "Dig Us" truck! With a little help from Snowballers and Geneva's Finest, they loaded up the truck and with a police escort delivered the supplies to a LaSalle Bank in St. Charles. Illinois Lt. Governor Pat Quinn and LaSalle Bank arranged to send the supplies to the troops.

### **Operation Snowball Becomes a Certified Peer Program**

The National Peer Helpers Association (NPHA) ([www.peerhelping.org](http://www.peerhelping.org)) is dedicated to promoting excellence in the peer resource field. Its membership is adult professionals that are responsible for peer programs. Recognizing the expanding role of the peer programs in schools and communities and the increasing importance of professional development, the National Peer Helpers Association (NPHA) has established a voluntary national certification program. This program identifies a certifiable level of adherence to the National Peer Helpers Association Programmatic Standards. Operation Snowball, Inc. has attained these levels and has completed the certification process and now proudly claims the designation, Certified Peer Program (CPP).

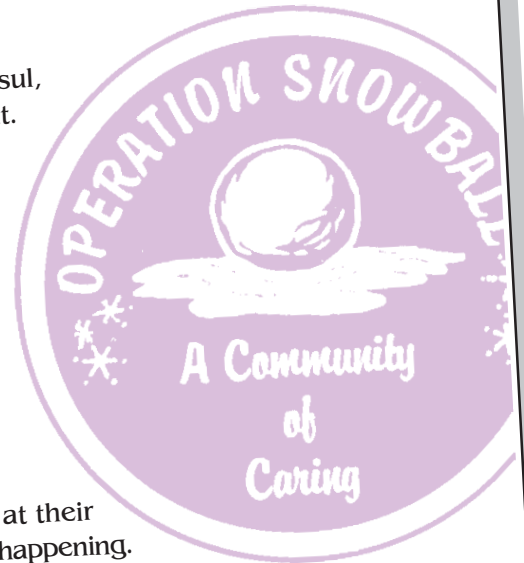
Within the field of peer programs this certification program intends: To promote professional standards, practices and ethics; To encourage self-assessment by offering guidelines for achievement; To improve performance by encouraging participation in a continuing program of professional growth and development; To acknowledge a level of educational training essential for effective peer program administration and/or operations; To foster professional contributions to the field; To maximize the benefits received by the peer program community from the visibility and credibility provided by certified peer programs.

# Happy Spring, Prevention Friends!

As we end our winter months and look forward to the spring and arrival of warm weather, we thought it would be a nice time to mention the great things that are happening in the world of prevention...

As many of you know, IADDA CEO, Angi Bowman, was serving in Iraq with the Illinois National Guard over the past year. She and her troops proudly represented our country, and to everyone's excitement, have returned home safely! The OS Board of Directors would like to welcome them all home and say thank you for your hard work. You have done some tremendous things for not only that country, but for the rest of the world. Thank you and were glad you're home safe.

The week after Angi Bowman and her troops returned home from Mosul, Iraq, the OS Board of Directors met in East Peoria for their annual retreat. We welcomed many new members to the board and had a great weekend getting to know them and developing new ideas for the Operation Snowball chapters. One exciting project in the works is an Alumni Directory that will list Snowball attendees from all the different chapters. This directory will hopefully serve as a resource for you to help find speakers for your events, fundraising ideas, etc. Look for an information card or letter to be coming in the mail to your chapter contacts. We hope to also put something on the website. It will be a voluntary only list. More information will be coming soon!



It's always exciting to hear about what different chapters are doing at their events and we love to celebrate when anniversaries or exciting things are happening. One such exciting event is the Spring Naperville Operation Snowball. This spring, the Naperville OS chapter will be celebrating their 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary! This will mark their 45<sup>th</sup> event since 1985. OS Board of Director, Spike Grosshuesch, is one of the adult directors, and we are so proud and excited for him and his staff. One of their teen staff from their first event, Mike Bruni (who many know as a presenter at ITI), will be doing their opening large group. This is such a thrilling time for them, and we can't wait to hear all about it!

The Panevezys Lithuania Operation Snowball will be celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary! The Panevezys chapter is the oldest in Lithuania. One member recently visited several events throughout Illinois. We wish them well in their prevention efforts.

We're sure that many more chapters are celebrating great anniversaries too, so please let us know and we'll celebrate you too!

Enjoy the flowers that will be blooming and the warm weather that will follow!

Regards,

Charla Waxman  
Chair

Marilee Muirhead  
Vice Chair

Meredith Sheriff  
Secretary

Amanda Carl  
Treasurer

## 2005 Illinois Teen Institute

Spring is just around the corner and the 2005 Illinois Teen Institute (ITI) will be here before you know it. ITI will be held July 24-28, 2005 at Millikin University in Decatur.

Already, the Leadership Team has been selected (visit the website [www.os-iti.org](http://www.os-iti.org) under ITI 2005 for this year's roster), and several general session and TRAX speakers have been confirmed such as Tei Street, Jerry Paulsen, Kevin Wanzer, and Jim Dederá.

Application for ITI can be downloaded directly from the website at [www.os-iti.org](http://www.os-iti.org) under the ITI 2005 link. Hard copies of applications were automatically sent to all who attended ITI 2004 at the beginning of February. Please be patient, as these are processed and delivered to you.

Again this year, all applications will be sent directly to IADDA. If you are applying for a position that requires an interview (PALS 1, PALS 2, A-Team, Adult Participant or Volunteer Staff), you will receive information on how to schedule your interview after your completed application packet and tuition have been received.

Be sure to check the web for updates on presenters and information as they become available and remember to recruit, recruit, recruit. Last year was hugely successful, and this year can be even better with your help!

Questions about the application process or the upcoming Institute can be directed to IADDA at 800.252.6301 ext. 52 or [iadda@iadda.org](mailto:iadda@iadda.org).

## Central Illinois Mid-Level Institute

Applications are still being accepted for the upcoming Mid-Level Institute to be held at the Nazarene Acres Camp, outside of Springfield, April 15-17, 2005. MLI is a leadership development and substance abuse prevention program for students in grades 6, 7 and 8. Last year's event did a phenomenal job of educating and empowering the youth who attended to lead substance-free lives and become leaders in their homes and schools, and we expect nothing less this year!

Participant applications are due April 1. Tuition for applications received before March 1 is \$55 and \$60 for applications received after that date. More information and applications can be found on the website at [www.os-iti.org](http://www.os-iti.org) under the MLI button. Questions about MLI can be directed to Jennifer Marwick at [jmarwick@iadda.org](mailto:jmarwick@iadda.org) or 217.528.7335 ext. 13.

## Important Illinois Teen Institute/ Mid-Level Institute Dates 2005

April 1, 2005	MLI Participant Apps Due
April 15, 2005	ITI Cluster Leader & PALS Coordinator Apps Due
April 15-17, 2005	MLI 2005

May 20, 2005	ITI Staff Apps Due
May 20, 2005	ITI Participant Apps Due for Early Tuition Break
June 17, 2005	ITI PALS 1 & 2 and Adult A-Team Apps Due
June 24-26, 2005	ITI Leadership Retreat
July 8, 2005	ITI Participant, AP, and Youth A-Team Apps Due
July 22-24, 2005	ITI Staff Training
July 24-28, 2005	ITI 2005
Sept. 17, 2005	ITI Leadership Debriefing
Oct. 8, 2005	MLI Reunion

## Seeking Presenters for ITI 2005

Presenters are being sought for the 2005 Illinois Teen Institute. The deadline for interested applicants has been extended to April 8, 2005. We are seeking presenters whose styles are both educational and interactive. Workshops are 3 ½ hours in length and are held on Tuesday, July 26 and Wednesday, July 27, 2005. Topics should reinforce and support the mission and vision of the Illinois Teen Institute and can include, but are not limited to the following education areas: leadership development, ATOD topics, addiction and substance abuse information, relationships, sexuality, diversity, advocacy and personal development. If you are interested in presenting a TRAX, please visit the ITI website at [www.os-iti.org](http://www.os-iti.org) or contact the IADDA office at 800-252-6301 ext. 52 for a Call for Presenters Form.

## Scholarships

Many IADDA board members, member agencies and community organizations generously donate scholarships to the Illinois Teen Institute each year. Over 80% of the students who attend ITI do so with the assistance of scholarships provided by agencies and community organizations. Your support can help Illinois youth make a difference in their homes, their schools and their communities.

If you or someone you know is interested in supporting a participant through a scholarship, please contact Jennifer Marwick at 800.252.6301 ext. 13 or [jmarwick@iadda.org](mailto:jmarwick@iadda.org).

## National Volunteer Week 2005

Millions of volunteers step forward to make our communities a better place to live. Role models mentor at-risk children. Volunteers build new homes. Families are given a second chance. Neighborhoods find hope. And millions of other projects help causes and organizations meet their missions. Many of YOU volunteer for Operation Snowball and the Illinois Teen Institute! ITI and OS extend our sincerest thank you for making ITI and OS the success that they are! Your hard work and dedication are highly appreciated.



A 32-year tradition, National Volunteer Week, designates a special time to recognize and celebrate the tremendous efforts of volunteers. Since it's inception, presidents, mayors, and other officials have signed proclamations and have participated in this highly visible, nationwide initiative. Volunteer Centers, nonprofits, businesses, government agencies, hospitals, faith-based organizations, and schools utilize National Volunteer Week to highlight their own volunteers and support thousands of service projects in the community.

Organizations such as businesses and nonprofits that are interested in participating in National Volunteer Week can find resources at [www.PointsofLight.org/NVW](http://www.PointsofLight.org/NVW)

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## Operation Snowball Attends CADCA Conference

The CADCA National Leadership Forum is a valuable learning and networking opportunity for OS in our fight against substance abuse in Illinois and our communities. Through a generous grant provided by the Lumpkin Family Foundation, OS Board of Directors member, Laurie Hawley was able to attend the Forum with OS staff.

More than 2,500 substance abuse prevention and treatment specialists from throughout the country convened in Washington, D.C. for the CADCA National Leadership Forum on January 11-13, 2005 at the Washington Convention Center. CADCA's National Leadership Forum is the nation's largest training conference for community coalition activists and substance abuse professionals, featuring workshops on the latest research in the substance abuse prevention and treatment fields. The Forum was a celebration of CADCA and coalitions working together to make our communities safe, healthy and drug-free!

Obtained were fresh ideas and innovative strategies, ways to build new partnerships within our chapters, school, communities, and with other coalition professionals. Training was obtained on coalition-specific topics and substance abuse prevention. Participants were able to return home with solid solutions to challenges that can be put to work right away.

There was the opportunity to choose from 80 workshops in key topic areas such as Coalition Building and Resources, Emerging Drug Trends, Strategic Planning and Building Partnerships-Sector Involvement. In addition, the Coalition Leader Roundtables offered the opportunity to share ideas with colleagues and find out what other people are doing to combat the challenges we may face. Capitol Hill Day provided visits to legislative leaders and their staff members to advocate for substance abuse prevention and treatment.

OS was able to exhibit a display of curricula, photos, and fact sheets to share with parents, teachers, youth, law enforcement officials, health providers, business and civic leaders, elected officials, concerned citizens, and the faith community from throughout the United States.

## OS Board of Directors Election

IADDA staff and the OS Board of Directors would like to congratulate the following OS Board of Directors members on their re-election to the Board or re-appointment by the IADDA Board of Directors.

Ron Jakubisin-District 1, Spike Grosshuesch-District 4, Marilee Muirhead-District 6, Thomas Rogers-District 7, Stephanie Decker-District 8, Karen Beverlin-District 12, Megan Edmondson, Tim Klasinski and Mark Sanders as IADDA appointments.

OS, Inc. welcomes Jeff Weishaar from Homewood-Flossmoor High School as a Youth Advocate.

IADDA appointee, Costella Green has regretfully resigned from the OS Board of Directors. OS thanks Costella for her contributions to Operation Snowball and wishes her well in her future endeavors.

Districts 5 and 12 have vacant seats. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the OS Board of Directors please contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301 extension 18 or email to [mpeavy@iadda.org](mailto:mpeavy@iadda.org).

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## OS Board of Directors Retreat

The Operation Snowball, Inc. Board of Directors Retreat was held February 12-13, 2005 at the Stoney Creek Inn in East Peoria, Illinois. The Board of Directors meets annually for strategic planning and teambuilding. OS/ITI alumn, Mike Bruni facilitated a busy weekend developing a strategic plan for Operation Snowball. The Board is dedicated to supporting the chapters of OS and the youth of Illinois. If you have any concerns and/or feedback to direct to the OS Board of Directors please contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800/252-6301 extension 18 or email to [mpeavy@iadda.org](mailto:mpeavy@iadda.org).



## Welcome New OS Chapters!

Duke/Durham Snowflake  
Unity for Community  
Field Middle School  
Evanston Snowflake

## Operation Snowball, Inc. Snowmeet

Edward Hospital in Naperville hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Snowmeet on Friday, February 18<sup>th</sup> where over 40 youth and adults gathered for workshops and networking. Charla and Mike Waxman began the day with the *FISH!* philosophy. Richard Oberbruner presented *Think Quickly On Your Feet* where through improvisational games participants gained confidence in expressing themselves. Kim Meldahl facilitated some experiential activities.

OS, Inc. would like to say thank you to the presenters and Edward Hospital for providing the meeting space and lunch.



## OS Board of Directors Spotlight

Hello Snowballers! My name is Breyn Puckett and I have been involved with Operation Snowball since my sophomore year of high school (1997). Immediately I feel in love with Snowball and haven't stopped being involved since!



Currently I am a prevention specialist for Logan County where I get to work with the local students and community members on drug education and prevention efforts. I always said I wanted to be a "Professional Snowballer" and have continued to work towards that goal. The best part about my job is being in the schools, especially the high schools. I love working with high schoolers. I have only been out of high school myself for a little over 5 years now and so I can still remember a bit of what it was like being that age and wanting to make a difference. However, now I also get the great perspective of being that adult that helps to guide, teach and support youth in making those differences. It really amazes me how enthusiastic and generous youth can be, no matter what age, and the impacts they can really make.

Having been in Snowball and part of the OS, Inc Board of Directors has really allowed me the opportunities to make a bigger impact with this program as well as meet so many great people! It is truly amazing to see the "snowball effect" in numerous other communities as well as watching it continue to grow within my own.

## Toxic Pizza Anyone?

This is a presentation that can be aimed towards any age group but it works especially well for elementary school.

Toxic pizza shows the students just a few of the nasty ingredients they would find in a cigarette. To make this presentation more interesting and memorable to the students it is best to get them involved. Start out by asking them what they like on their pizza. After a few answers pull out your frozen pizza. Place it on a table and begin to add your own pizza ingredients.

Supplies needed: Assemble the following household ingredients. (If you would like to include more students in this presentation have pre-made posters with the ingredients listed.)

Moth balls  
Fertilizer  
Nail Polish Remover  
Toilet Bowl Cleaner  
Rat Poison  
Insecticide  
Candle Wax  
Disinfectant Spray



Paint Stripper  
Lighter Fluid

Before you add each ingredient you may want to continue to ask the students for additional pizza topping ideas. Have a student come up and hold up the ingredient poster.

When the pizza is complete have the students come up and smell the pizza. Make sure they don't touch anything.

To make this presentation even more educational for the students have some posters with current smoking/tobacco information.

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## April is Alcohol Awareness Month- Together, We Can Stop Underage Drinking

Since 1987, the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence - founded in 1944 to educate Americans about the treatable and preventable disease of alcoholism - has sponsored Alcohol Awareness Month during April. Since then, many other public and private groups at the national, state and community level have recognized Alcohol Awareness Month as an important national health observance and have pitched in to provide timely information to children, families and communities across America. This year, NCADD, the Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) have joined together to sponsor this important effort.

Alcohol Awareness Month spotlights underage drinking and the destructive effects it can have on the nation's youth. Underage drinking is a complex problem, one that can only be solved through a sustained and cooperative effort between parents, schools, community leaders, interested organizations and individuals, and America's youth. This year's theme, "Together, We Can Stop Underage Drinking," emphasizes the collective, collaborative, and comprehensive efforts needed to address this critical public health problem.

"As a society, we've got to do a far better job persuading our citizens and especially our young people that alcohol use is a dead end," says NCADD President Stacia Murphy in relation to the theme for 2005. "Working together from all different perspectives on this problem is the only way to head off and to heal the devastating consequences of underage drinking."

An integral part of Alcohol Awareness Month is Alcohol-Free Weekend, which takes place on the first weekend of April (April 1-3, 2005). Alcohol-Free Weekend is designed to raise public awareness about the use of alcohol and how it may be affecting individuals, families, and businesses. During Alcohol-Free Weekend, NCADD extends an open invitation to all Americans to engage in three alcohol-free days and to use this time to contact local NCADD Affiliates and other alcoholism agencies to learn more about alcoholism and its early symptoms.

## CO-SPONSORS:

The Leadership to Keep Children Alcohol Free is a unique coalition of more than 30 Governors' spouses, Federal agencies, and public and private groups focused on preventing the use of alcohol by children ages 9 to 15. For more information, please visit their website: <http://alcoholfreechildren.org>.

SAMHSA is a part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. SAMHSA's mission is to build resilience and facilitate recovery for people with or at risk for substance abuse and mental illness. For more information, please visit their website at: <http://www.samhsa.gov/news/news.html>.

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## Your Two Cents Make a Difference!

Did you know that more money is printed daily for the game Monopoly than by the U.S. treasury? If only some of that money could make a difference for Operation Snowball and the Illinois Teen Institute. But guess what? You can make that happen just by buying your games, toys, books, CDs and everyday items at iGive.com. At the Mall at [www.iGive.com/os](http://www.iGive.com/os), you get a free membership (no costs or obligations) to shop at 500+ stores and without even knowing it you'll be helping OS and ITI at the same time. So, instead of printing money, just find a little here and there by doing a little shopping, and up to 26% of every purchase you make will be donated directly to OS and ITI!

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## E-Mail Updates

In an effort to keep chapters informed with up-to-date campaigns/initiatives, facts, statistics and general alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention information staff has developed an e-mail list. Members receive the latest information and news from federal and state programs such as Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP), Join Together Online, Campaign For Tobacco Free Kids, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), and many more. You may join the OS-ITI network by visiting [www.os-iti.org](http://www.os-iti.org) and select the link at the top or contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301, x. 18 or [mpeavy@iadda.org](mailto:mpeavy@iadda.org) for assistance.

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## Operation Snowball, Inc. and the Illinois Teen Institute Web Site

The official web site address is [www.iadda.org](http://www.iadda.org). The web site is packed with information to assist your prevention efforts including staff training materials, presenters, activities, skits, ITI applications and workgroup updates, and more. If you chapter has a web site please forward the URL to [mpeavy@iadda.org](mailto:mpeavy@iadda.org) to be linked from the official site.

# 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.

## MARCH

**March 4-6, 2005**, Greater Fox River Valley OS

Snowball

Contact Mary Heinrich at 847.697.0761

**March 3-6, 2005** ILCAAP Retreat

Contact Cheri Fafoglia at 217.546.4846

**March 5, 2005** ITI Planning Meeting

Location TBA

Contact IADDA at 800.252.6301, ext. 52 or [iadda@iadda.org](mailto:iadda@iadda.org)

**March 11-12, 2005** Rochester OS Snowflake

Contact Kate Watson at [kwatson@roe51.k12.il.us](mailto:kwatson@roe51.k12.il.us)

**March 12, 2005** Naperville OS Snowflurry 204

Contact Ian Shaw at 630/961-2992 x. 231

**March 18, 2005** Hinsdale OS Snowflake

Contact Laird Luoma at 630.655.6107

## APRIL

**April 8-10, 2005** Pleasant Plains OS Snowball

Contact Peggy Brandon at 217.626.1044 or [pbrandon@ppcusd8.org](mailto:pbrandon@ppcusd8.org)

**April 15, 2005** Wheaton-Warrenville OS Snowflurry

Contact Mary Sunday at 847.933.7292 or [msunday@cusd200.org](mailto:msunday@cusd200.org)

**April 15-17, 2005** Central IL Mid-level Institute

Nazarene Acres, Springfield, IL  
Contact Jennifer Marwick at 800.252.6301, ext. 13 or [jmarwick@iadda.org](mailto:jmarwick@iadda.org)

**April 22-24, 2005** Naperville OS Snowball

Contact Ian Shaw at 630/961-2992 x. 231

**April 22, 2005** Wheaton-Warrenville OS Snowflurry

Contact Mary Sunday at 847.933.7292 or [msunday@cusd200.org](mailto:msunday@cusd200.org)

**April 23, 2005** OS Board of Directors Meeting

Chestnut Health Systems, Bloomington, IL

Contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301, ext. 18 or [mpeavy@iadda.org](mailto:mpeavy@iadda.org)

## MAY

No dates at this time.

## JUNE

**June 24-26, 2005** ITI Leadership Retreat

Location to be determined

Contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301, ext. 13 or [mpeavy@iadda.org](mailto:mpeavy@iadda.org)

**June 16, 2005** OS Board of Directors Meeting

Conference Call

Contact Mary Jo Peavy at 800.252.6301, ext. 18 or [mpeavy@iadda.org](mailto:mpeavy@iadda.org)

## JULY

**July 24-28, 2005:** Illinois Teen Institute

Millikin University, Decatur, IL  
contact ITI at 800/252-6301, ext. 52 or [iadda@iadda.org](mailto:iadda@iadda.org)

*To submit a date please contact IADDA at 800.252.6301, ext. 52 or email [iadda@iadda.org](mailto:iadda@iadda.org) for consideration.*

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

**IADDA Staff**

CEO: Angela M. Bowman  
Associate Director: Sara Moscato  
Business Manager: Pel Thomas  
Prevention Coordinator: Mary Jo Peavy  
Prevention Coordinator: Jennifer Marwick  
Administrative /Mail Room Coordinator: Tabitha Holt  
Special Projects Coordinator: Peggie Powers  
Intern: Sydney Smith

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

## Peer Programs Deliver: Real Programs That Really Work!

### *The 19th Annual National Peer Helpers Association Annual Conference*

June 24-26, 2005

Hyatt Lodge in Oakbrook, Illinois just outside of Chicago.

Visit [www.peerhelping.org](http://www.peerhelping.org) or call 877.314.7337 for more information.



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