

Promise Newsletter January 2019

Platteville Community Conversation

On December 18 a small but enthusiastic group met at the UW-Platteville Student Center to discuss the state of youth employment in the local community and how different organizations and individuals can build on the strengths and address the challenges. Participants heard from Lauren, Promise youth and Project SEARCH intern, about how her involvement in Promise has helped her to grow more confident and to recognize the job that matches her skills and interests. She has found her niche in IT support at the university and is proud of the work she does there. The community conversation gave the Platteville special education and Project SEARCH staff an opportunity to brainstorm ideas for more collaboration with DVR. Currently the Platteville School District does not have a transition program; therefore, there are not many opportunities available to teachers and counselors to work together. The new Special Education Director, Max Long, expressed much interest in exploring collaboration with other districts, UW-Platteville, and Southwest Tech. The local Optimist club sent Becky Schambow to represent its members, and Connor Brown from an assisted living center in Platteville shared how she struggles to find long-term, loyal employees in a college town and is open to ideas for how to recruit and train youth with disabilities to work at her business.

Promise Follow-Up Survey

If you have completed the Follow-Up Survey, THANK YOU! If you haven't, there is still time to complete this.

As part of the Wisconsin Promise study, we are asking all Promise youth and one family member to each complete a Follow-Up Survey to collect information about your time in the Promise program. This information will help us improve future services for youth and families.

All youth who complete the survey by January 31st will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win a \$30 Walmart or Target gift card.

[Find the survey here](#)

Jonblair and Joy: A Promise Youth Inspires His Family

Jonblair is a 17-year-old high schooler. When he first met his Promise Counselor he was very shy, to the point of barely speaking. After building some rapport he opened up a bit and his Counselor discovered that he was open to working. Jonblair was very unsure of what his work interests might be and what he might be capable of. He mentioned that work was not something he had thought about because he thought he had to wait until he was older to work.

Read [here](#) how he explores his potential and inspires his mom.

Stop Bullying on the Spot

When adults respond quickly and consistently to bullying behavior they send the message that it is not acceptable. Research shows this can stop bullying behavior over time. There are simple steps adults can take to stop bullying on the spot and keep kids safe.

6 Steps adults can take to stop bullying on the spot.

- Intervene immediately. It's ok to get another adult to help.

- Separate the kids involved.
- Make sure everyone is safe.
- Meet any immediate medical or mental health needs.
- Stay calm. Reassure the kids involved, including bystanders.
- Model respectful behavior when you intervene.

Contact Us

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