

# Remembering ADAM Inc.

*Telling Our Story So No More Die*

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On July 31, 1979, the birth of a healthy, bouncing baby boy, ten fingers and ten toes—the most joyous occasion of a parent's life. So many precious moments, memories and dreams. Life lasting.

The sudden and tragic death of that son in his teens, the worst nightmare of a parent. So much heartache, shock and despair. Life Shattering.

No two people know this saga better than us—Debbie and Denny Fowler. We lost our beloved son Adam on May 19, 1998 due to an intravenous heroin overdose. A promising life, snuffed out short...

Subsequently, we made the decision to forge ahead and help other families who were and are dealing with a loved one that suffers from drug addiction. We did not want another family to experience our pain. We

are realizing that goal as time marches on, through much effort and generosity of others.

Incorporated in October of 1998, Remembering ADAM Inc., a non-profit organization, was finally established. Our mission had begun.

Remembering ADAM Inc conducts an annual candlelight vigil each year on the anniversary of Adam's death. It is rotated from community to community each year in order to spread awareness about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. In 2001, the event was conducted at the Prince of Peace Chapel Activity Center in Northern Cambria and previously had been conducted at locations in Patton and Hastings.

Our organization has made its way into our schools, our local and state government, and is well on its way to reaching national notoriety.

We are dedicated to making a difference in the lives by promoting awareness and education.

Your generosity is what makes our work possible. Please consider contributing to our worthy cause.

Your gift will provide the necessary tools for Remembering ADAM to continue to educate and save lives.

*Adolescent substance abuse can start early. The average age for young people to start using tobacco is 12. The average age young people start drinking alcohol is shortly before 13 and the average age for young people to start smoking marijuana is 14. Provided by "Monitoring the Future."*

*Young people who start drinking alcohol at age 13 are four times more likely to develop an alcohol abuse disorder later on in life than someone who starts drinking at age 20. Provided by "Monitoring the Future."*

*American Officials say the Taliban government in Afghanistan has earned tens of millions of dollars from the export of heroin and other narcotics since it proclaimed last year that it was ending opium poppy cultivation. Provided by "Chicago Tribune."*

*About one-quarter of youth age 10 to 17 say their friends "huff" (inhale the fumes of household products such as glue and paint), and more than on-third (34%) of these youth are between age 13 and 15 when they are first exposed to peers who use inhalants. Provided by "American Academy of Pediatrics."*

## FROM SCHOOL HALLS TO THE HALLS OF THE LEGISLATURE

Debbie Fowler had the unique opportunity to speak to several thousand high school students at Altoona High this year as part of the school's drug awareness program. The featured guest speaker was Pennsylvania State Attorney General Mike Debbie speaks from experience about her son Adam and his sudden death, attempting to teach young adults to refrain from experi-

menting with drugs. She is frank and to the point which is the success of her guest speaking appearances, which she has conducted in several different realms, including those at local schools, rotary clubs, and even the state capitol rotunda.

On April 25th Debbie was a guest speaker at a rally in the state capitol in Harrisburg in support of

allotting additional funds for the drug and alcohol budge and also to eliminate "waiting lists" for those people who are in need of treatment. There were over 500 people in attendance-many of them state senators and representa-

Audrey Brothers

## NEW OFFICE LOCATION

Earlier this year, a portion of the offices of Remembering ADAM Inc. were relocated from the Fowler home into donated office space above the new St. Vincent DePaul Society, which is located along Route 219 in Carrolltown. "We are very grateful for St. Vincent DePaul for sharing this space

with us", and Debbie Fowler.

Donations for the facility, such as computer equipment, are currently being sought, and monetary contributions are accepted on an ongoing basis. Additional information can be obtained by calling toll free 1-877-787-ADAM or via e-mail at adam51998@aol.com.

"This is not just a Cambria County program, and it is not solely geared toward reaching teenagers," Fowler said, pointing out that she functions as a guest speaker at many adult functions in order to raise awareness and educate parents on the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

Audrey Brothers

## "GETTING STREET SMART"

Debbie Fowler, President of Remembering ADAM and Mindy Rickabaugh, a prevention specialist from Twin Lakes Center present the program to parents and adults.

The program will provide attendees with information on drugs currently being used in our area, signs and symptoms of drug use and informational packets to help those in attendance to further understand the

nature of drug use and addiction.

Portage and Penn Cambria School Districts are offering this program to adult members of the community.

The school districts will provide informational flyers to each student to take home to their parents encouraging them to attend.

Educating parents is

a must in the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse among our youth.

If your school district or organization is interested in the "Getting Street Smart" program please contact Debbie Fowler at

1-877-767-ADAM for more information.

## EDUCATION IS OUR BEST DEFENSE

Recently, Remembering ADAM Inc., in conjunction with Twin Lakes Center and the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office sponsored a sub cultural drug training session at Portage Area Middle School.

The event was made available to local police departments, probation officers, drug and alcohol agencies, teachers and other organizations. Over forty-five interested parties attended.

Two agents from the

Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office presented hundreds of samples of drug paraphernalia and demonstrated how children are using common household items to obtain a very often concealed "high". Such examples of achieving this effect would be gasoline, nail polish remover, oven cleaner, furniture polish, hair spray, canned whipping cream, glue, air fresheners, paint thinner, among others.

Participants were treated to a very informative

session that also targeted the effects of Ecstasy, GHB, PCP, LSD, Ketamine HCL, Cocaine, Heroin and Marijuana, as well as how these drugs are packaged, the varying methods of use, street prices/names and physical effects.

If your organization is interested in holding a sub cultural drug training please contact Debbie Fowler at 1-877-767-ADAM for more information.

Audrey Brothers

## VOLUNTEER SCREENING PROGRAM

**PORTAGE** - High school students here are being afforded the opportunity to prove that they are drug and alcohol free.

"The Portage School District is sending a strong message of commitment to their students that they care about each student and want to help them make the right decisions," said Debbie Fowler, of Remembering ADAM Inc.

At the school board meeting on October 17th, members voted unanimously to institute the Remembering ADAM Volunteer Drug and Alcohol Screening Program with the district.

"This is a positive way for our kids to show that they're drug and alcohol free," said Doug Conlon, high school guidance counselor, who indicated that superintendent Dr. Andrew Kittell and members of the board are "100% behind it (the program)".

According to Conlon, the school nurse will be responsible for administering the voluntary screenings, and he will be responsible for notifying the parents or legal guardians of the outcomes of each student's screening. He indicated, the cost of the screenings, estimated at \$10, will be funded by Remembering ADAM Inc.

Portage high school accommodates a total of 422 students 8th-12th grade, according to Conlon.

The implementation date for the actual program is estimated to be November 12th, with Debbie Fowler meeting individually with small groups of students who have volunteered to participate. Conlon also said that four students a week will be screened, and the results will remain confidential.

"The volunteer screening program is just one way students can take an active

part in staying drug and alcohol free. Remembering ADAM is very pleased the Portage School District has decided to accept our program," said Debbie Fowler.

The group has strived to educate both local teenagers and adults as to the danger associated with alcohol and drug abuse. "We are looking to achieve very positive results," said Conlon.

Audrey Brothers

*More than half (55%) of our nation's 12th graders have tried an illicit drug, and more than one-half (29%) have tried a drug other than marijuana, such as cocaine, inhalants, and heroin. Provided by "Monitoring the Future."*

*Nearly one in four teens age 12 to 17 cite drugs as the most important problem facing people their age. Provided by "The National Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University."*

*By the time they reach age 17, more than half (56%) of adolescents know a drug dealer. Provided by "National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University."*

*The United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention estimates that Afghanistan supplies roughly 80% of the world's opium used to make heroin. Provided by "Boston Globe."*

*Scientific research into addiction has led experts to conclude that addiction is actually a disease, a chronic illness like diabetes or hypertension. The American Medical Association broke new ground approximately forty years ago when it declared alcoholism to be a disease.*

# Remembering ADAM

## Telling Our Story

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WE'RE ON THE WEB  
[WWW.REMEMBERINGADAM.COM](http://WWW.REMEMBERINGADAM.COM)

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Executive Committee

Deborah A. Fowler - President  
Amanda L. Fowler - Vice President  
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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*The Mission of Remembering ADAM Inc. is to bring a radical awareness of the murderous outcomes of drug use. Led by individuals who have a passion for telling their stories of personal tragedy and loss. The organization will aggressively establish opportunities for understanding so no more die.*

## **VISION STATEMENT**

*Our Vision is for every school in North America to have a comprehensive in-depth drug awareness program that reaches every student K-12. We envision whole families and communities becoming transformed from the numbing reality of the current drug culture. This transformation will lead to a new reality in that parents and children will not only be aware of the dangers of drug use, they will also find a whole new way of relating to the world around them. We envision a time when communities "push out the pushers," usher in effective modes of communication, establish laws that will significantly and effectively decrease the flood of drugs into our communities, and return control of the "village" to those who seek to nurture and enrich life, rather than kill, steal and destroy.*

## **GIVING BACK**

Due to the overwhelming response that we have received from people like you who have supported our cause, we are giving back to the community by adopting a portion of the new four-lane Route 219 just outside of Carrolltown.

Clean-ups are conducted by members and supporters of Remembering ADAM Inc. in an attempt to keep Pennsylvania beautiful. This is our way of showing our gratitude for your support.