

Bridges Over Barriers – 2017

INDIVIDUAL AWARD: Cody Glenn (Radcliff, KY)

Cody Glenn is a remarkable young man. He has survived addiction and come out on the other side with a new passion to help others and prevent young people from making the same choices he has made. He is the lead presenter of a group of young men and women that are using their individual stories to help high school students. Cody first came to Hardin County BOE in 2016 wanting to present a preventative message in classrooms. I am so glad to have made this contact. It is sometimes hard to present ATOD messages to high schoolers, but these young men and women captivate our students with their personal stories. Cody gets a group of 5 to 7 people together to come to North Hardin High's health classes and present their stories as a warning to students. They are people that students can relate to and they are very REAL with our students. Cody and his group come and present one full day of 5 classes in each of 3 trimesters. The teachers and students have said it is the best ATOD Prevention presentation they have ever had. I have had calls from parents commending the presentations after their children went home and told them about what was said. Cody and the others do this voluntarily as they each take a day off of work each trimester (3 days a year just for us) to give these presentations. Since making his commitment to do these presentations, Cody has also moved and travels from Paducah to Radcliff (185 miles) to present to our students. None of the presenters have requested any compensation. They simply say it is a part of their continued recovery from addiction. I cannot say enough about Cody and his group. It is amazing these days to see young people with this dedication and passion to help others. Cody leads a phenomenal team and as they do not have a formal name, I would like to nominate Cody Glenn as the individual that Bridges Barriers. Cody is the constant as the group members change, however, if chosen for this special honor I would love to have the certificate say Cody Glenn and the ATOD Prevention Team.