

**A Collaborative Drop-out
Prevention Program
Between:**

[List Partners Here]

PAY-OFFS

- 20% increase in GPA
- 60% decrease in hard drug use
- Personal control & anger management
- Stronger self confidence
- Enhanced ability to handle stress
- More positive connections with teachers, friends, & family members

Together We Can Make a Difference!



Reconnecting Youth



Prevention Program

A Peer Group Approach to Building Life Skills



**A Community
Partnership**

Funded By:
[Funding Source Here]



The Program

What are the goals? “Reconnecting Youth” (RY) is a school-based program that emphasizes three primary goals: to increase school performance; increase ‘drug use control’; and decrease suicide risk behaviors.



“I learned how to meet better friends that are better for me, and how to keep my good friends.”

RY student

How does it work? This program applies the essential combination of small group work (10-12 students per class) with life skills training in a daily, semester-long class. In addition, program staff monitor class attendance, school achievement, moods, drug involvement, and social interactions, and help youth make healthy choices for friendships and social activities.

Social skills training. School bonding.
Mentoring. Social support. Advocacy.
School system crisis response plan.
Teacher training. Social activities.

The People

Who can participate? RY is designed to serve regular 9-12th grade high school students who:

- are having a poor school experience,
- are behind in credits, have slipping grades, or
- are skipping school or at risk of dropping out.

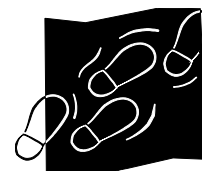
Of these students, a group is randomly selected and invited to take the class for credit. It is critical that students make an informed choice to participate, rather than be assigned or forced to take the class.

“I think this class needs to be taught for kids like me, kids who need the teacher to go that little extra mile for them.”

RY student

Who makes a key difference?

Specially trained RY Leaders are important contributors to positive outcomes for the students. Together, with the RY Leader, the RY Coordinator and the RY School-based Support Team provide additional support and advocacy to enhance the students’ school experience.



Learning S.T.E.P.S. to decision-making provides a sense of personal control to help teens meet positive goals.