

# THE COURAGE TO SPEAK® FOUNDATION

*Saving Lives by Empowering Youth to be Drug Free*

Ginger Katz, CEO and Founder

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***“We need to learn about these things before it’s too late...the most important thing this program teaches is not to be afraid...it’s better to talk out your problems than to resort to drugs.”***  
**Julie, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, West Rocks Middle School**

Dear Friend:

Through the Courage to Speak® Foundation programs, students like Julie are learning that the key to a healthy and happy tomorrow is to live drug-free. Thanks to community partners and local supporters like you, we are succeeding in our mission to save young lives and keep our children safe from drugs.

To help continue this mission, the Foundation will host its **11th Annual Courage To Speak® Empowering Youth to Be Drug-Free Family Night** on Monday, March 16, 2015, 5:45 p.m., at West Rocks Middle School, 81 West Rocks Road, Norwalk, CT (*snow date: March 19<sup>th</sup>*). This festive event brings families, educators, teachers, school administrators and community leaders together to affirm their shared commitment to keeping our kids drug-free. Proceeds from the event support Courage to Speak® Foundation Programs to educate children and their parents about the dangers of alcohol and other drug use. **The Courage to Speak Drug Prevention Education Programs served 16,828 students in 7 Norwalk Schools and many of their Parents since 2002.**

Consider these sobering statistics:

- **Kids reduce drug use by 65% if middle school prevention programs are in place**
- **1 out of 5 fifth graders have been drunk** according to the American Pediatric Association
- **Prescription painkillers are the new gateway drug to heroin among 12 to 17 year-olds**

**You can help us make a positive difference in the lives of youth  
by becoming a sponsor of this year’s event.**

As an event sponsor, your business or organization will receive positive visibility through a comprehensive marketing plan that will include newspaper, radio and electronic media reaching thousands of people. The enclosed Sponsorship Package provides details of the many public relations benefits of sponsoring this event.

Help us erase the myth that “Oh, this won’t happen to my child.”

It can.

It happened to my son, Ian. It took his life.

Please review and return the enclosed event sponsorship form. To ensure that you receive maximum benefit from your involvement, please return the form with your sponsorship contribution by January, 2015.

Once again, thank you for your support and for helping us keep our children safe from drugs.

Sincerely,



Ginger Katz  
CEO and Founder and Author of *Sunny’s Story*