

RALEIGH COUNTY

SHAPED YOUTH COALITION

Safe, Healthy, Active, Positive, Empowered & Drug Free

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2009

CONTACTS: Christian Martine (304) 228-1739 OR Carrilyn Carey (304) 253-9361

Raleigh County Youth Appointed to State-Level Drug Prevention Advisory Group

Shady Spring High senior Christian Martine has been appointed to the WV Partnership to Promote Community Well-Being. Martine, 17 of Daniels, WV, will take the Oath of Office tomorrow at 4:30 P.M. He will be sworn in by Judge H. L. "Kirk" Kirkpatrick, III at the Raleigh County Courthouse.

"We are so proud of Christian," said Deborah Gallaher, teacher at Shady Spring High School. "It's an honor to have a teenager from our area involved in a state level group that advises the Governor."

The WV Partnership to Promote Community Well-Being (WV Partnership) is the state's Governor-appointed substance abuse prevention and intervention planning body. It consists of representatives of key state agencies in all three branches of the government and other organizations. Martine fills the position of student at a state high school.

Created by Executive Order Number 8-04 in 2004, the WV Partnership is tasked with planning, securing resources, recommending sub-grants, and evaluating. It has most recently advised the Governor regarding WV's \$11+ million federal Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant; \$4 million in Drug Free WV Grants (Purdue Pharma Asset Forfeiture funds); and WV's Underage Drinking Prevention Initiative www.PrevNET.org/ru21. The WV Partnership is also advising the development of WV's *Comprehensive, Strategic Plan to Address Substance Abuse*, which will be unveiled at the 2009 Governor's Drug Summit in November.

In addition to the WV Partnership, the state's substance abuse prevention system includes local level groups in most counties. The Raleigh County S.H.A.P.E.D. Youth Coalition creates partnerships, promotes trust, and empowers youth through coordinated resource development. It encourages healthy choices and provides positive alternatives for youth and families thereby reducing substance use and abuse. Additional information about S.H.A.P.E.D. is available at www.shapedcoalitionwv.com/ or by calling Coalition Coordinator Carrilyn Carey (304.253.9361, carrilyncarey@aol.com).

Martine is also a national spokesperson for SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) National, serves on the Beckley-Raleigh County Chamber of Commerce Committee on Education, and is involved in other civic organizations.

Additional information about the WV Partnership is available at www.PrevNET.org.

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