

# Invent 2 Prevent

Invent2Prevent (I2P) is an experiential project that challenges high school students to create and activate their own peer-developed initiatives, products and tools to prevent targeted violence and help create safe schools and communities.

All participation is free of cost.



Invent2Prevent is sponsored by the DHS Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships (CP3)



High school programs

Collegia

Collegiate programs

#### **Growing Prevention Education**

- Building upon the success of the Invent2Prevent collegiate program and 25 high school pilot program, Invent2Prevent will expand over 50 high schools during the 2022/2023 academic year
- Each team given a \$1,000 budget
- Offering \$15,000 in scholarships
- All expenses paid D.C. competition and \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$1,000 prize money

#### What Students Do

- Use resources on program website portal
- Conduct primary research
- Develop creative online projects
- Review project concepts with I2P team
- Implement, execute, and analyze projects
- Submit final reports
- · Selected teams to present and compete in D.C.
- Apply for scholarships

#### What Teachers Do

- Determine if a club, class, or student organization is best suited to implement the program
- Maintain open, frequent, and friendly communications with I2P Project Managers
- Review and provide feedback on student work and ensure milestones are met
- Help prepare students if selected as finalist to compete in D.C.

#### Benefits to Students

- Acquire practice working with a real client, real objectives, and producing real results
- Gain a sense of accomplishment by having a positive impact on the school and community
- Bolster college applications and career readiness skills
- Greater acceptance of differences
- Increased use of learned skills
- · Higher academic attainment
- Increased critical thinking skills

Our students are really enjoying this project and it's been a huge success in terms of schoolwide student engagement. Thank you for bringing this opportunity to Portland Public Schools and our students...who are working on violence prevention through improved mental health and empathic storytelling.

- Principal Peyton Chapman, Portland, Oregon



of students stated they have a greater understanding of what targeted violence and hate are and how they impact their community



of students learned how to more effectively use their emotional reactions in prosocial ways to be an agent of change



of students learned how to work with a team to conceptualize, design, and implement a campaign that will create a mindset shift or behavior change



of students better understand how they can reduce harm and build healthy relationships respectfully with others

- I2P Student Participants











<sup>&</sup>quot;I learned the importance of making people feel included and building a sense of unity."

<sup>&</sup>quot;I learned how big of an impact a small group of high schoolers can make."

<sup>&</sup>quot;This project helped me realize that it only takes one person to make a huge difference in someone's life and well being."



## Invent 2 Prevent

### 2021-2022 STUDENT FINALISTS

1st Place: High Five REACT - Marysville High School, Ohio



High Five REACT (Respect, Equality, Acceptance, Communication, and Trust) created a board game to facilitate a mentoring program between high school and elementary students with the goal of cultivating healthy relationships through play and partnerships.







2nd Place: E.P.I.C. - Newburyport High School, Massachusetts



E.P.I.C. - Eighth Promotes Interaction and Community combats isolation and exclusion among 8th grade atrisk students through the usage of an escape room and tailored curriculum designed to provide youth meaning to reduce risk factors and amplify protective factors.







3rd Place: BJ Connect! - Bob Jones High School, Alabama









BJ Connect! works to prevent social isolation and feelings of isolation by creating long-term support groups for students to use for help, comfort and access to mental health resources without feeling isolated by the presence of social stigmas.

## HONORABLE MENTIONS

Overflowing - Sandia High School, New Mexico

Overflowing podcast aims to prevent hate crimes and targeted violence between students, teachers, or administrators through students helping students.









T.I.E.S. Together in Empathetic Storytelling - Lincoln High School, Oregon

TIES is a story sharing campaign that seeks to build community connectedness among students and teachers suffering the impacts of loneliness, isolation, and a lack of in-person interactions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kindness Can Cure - Mount Pleasant High School, Tennessee

Kindness Can Cure centers on kindness, anti-bullying strategies, and positive reinforcement through modeling positive interactions to prevent future instances of targeted violence.



DHS continues to work with communities across the country to help prevent acts of targeted violence. Invent2Prevent uniquely empowers young people to help prevent this violence. Deputy Secretary of U.S.Department Homeland Security, John Tien