



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, June 9, 2009
CONTACT: Maura Bowman, Communications Specialist, 471-1359

**PREVENTION NETWORK
HIRES
YOUTH GAMBLING PREVENTION SPECIALIST**

Syracuse, NYô Prevention Network announced today that it has hired a new youth gambling prevention specialist. Larry Sharps joined the staff to coordinate research-based gambling prevention programs designed to increase social skills and address risk and protective factors among youth. In his new position, Larry will work with individuals, schools, parent-teacher associations, the Faith sector, and the community at large. He has worked as a counselor in clinical and community settings including Syracuse Behavioral Health Care, Community Options, and the Hillside Childrenø Center.

Mr. Sharps received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from Dillard University. In addition, he completed the R.A.P.T. [Recovery Addiction Professional Training] Program. He is a resident of Syracuse.

A photo of Mr. Sharps is attached.

Prevention Network has been making Central New York a healthier community since 1949 through proven and measureable programs to prevent addictions and address other problem behaviors.