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**PREVENTION NETWORK RECEIVES FUNDING AWARD  
FROM NEW YORK STATE OASAS**

Syracuse, NY—Prevention Network announced today that it was selected to receive an award from New York State’s OASAS (Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services) to develop a Regional Prevention Resource Center. The Syracuse agency received official notice from OASAS Commissioner Karen Carpenter-Palumbo that it will receive up to \$250,000 in funding to create the regional resource center. The center will develop, implement and evaluate coalitions that address alcohol, and other drug and problem gambling behaviors in the community. “We are thrilled to be offered the opportunity to strengthen the environments of our children, families, neighborhoods and businesses, commented Bradley E. Finn, Executive Director of Prevention Network. “The center will assist existing coalitions and help build new ones to address alcohol and other drug prevention efforts.” Mr. Finn added that the funding award was secured with the unanimous support from prevention providers and county governments across the central region.

Prevention Network will oversee the new Prevention Resource Center from its current office at 1050 West Genesee Street in Syracuse. It will coordinate efforts for a 13-county region, including St Lawrence, Jefferson, Lewis, Cayuga, Onondaga, Cortland, Madison, Oneida, Herkimer, Oswego, Chenango, Otsego, and Delaware counties. The agency has advertised a new full-time staff position to coordinate the center and provide the necessary training and technical assistance to support existing local community coalitions in preventing alcoholism, drug abuse, and problem gambling behavior.

The Genesee Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse in Batavia was awarded a similar funding allocation to establish a prevention resource center in the western region of the state.

*Prevention Network is making a difference in Central New York through proven addiction prevention programs. The agency helps our community become a healthier place by providing tools for youth, parents, individuals, and groups to prevention addictions and address other problem behaviors.*