



formerly known as the
Robert Crown Center for Health Education



JUST THE FACTS

September 2020
Community Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What a crazy time for students, parents, schools, businesses, etc! As you can imagine, we're also realizing the affects of the changes (hopefully temporary) put in place to start of the school year. Due to the change in how many teachers need to structure their day, scheduling a health education class may not be a priority. Therefore, we're seeing a significant decrease in school programs to start the year. We rely on the school programs as our primary source of income for the year.

We've grown as an organization for the last 5 years, but we hope during this unique time you would be willing to financially support us with a [donation](#).

Candor Health Education provides programming to our students that really doesn't exist any where else. Students, parents, schools and the greater community look to us to help with those difficult discussions on topics that can be uncomfortable for everyone.

We know we will persevere during these challenging times, but would appreciate any help you can provide.

Thank you.
Barb Thayer
Executive Director-Candor Health Education

[MAKE A DONATION >](#)

OUR TRANSITION TO CANDOR HEALTH EDUCATION

'Candor' unveiled as new name for RCC

The Hinsdalean

Trying to find a new name that captures the essence of a 46-year-old organization and its mission is not easy to do — especially when some options already have been taken.



A task force charged with finding a new name for the Robert Crown Center for Health Education first selected a name that already was in use, said Executive Director Barb Thayer. So they went back to an earlier list and settled on Candor Health Education.

“It’s hard to find a name that everybody likes,” Thayer said. “It’s very, very hard.”

She had liked the name Candor from the beginning and was even more convinced after a few task force members asked their adolescent and teenage children to weigh in on the options.

“All of those kids agreed on Candor,” she said. “What we learned is the ‘Divergent’ series has a team on it named Candor, so all the kids knew that it meant honest and truthful.”

Board member Jeanne Osgood agreed.

“I think the name resonates with teenagers and it gives us a chance to use it as a teaching tool,” she said. “What does candor mean? We are delivering honest, straightforward, very open conversations with groups of kids. I think this now will become an element in a lot of the programming.”

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IN THE NEWS



A 2018 study of 10,000 teenagers found 15 percent had sent sexts and 27 percent had received them. (Getty Images)

Importance of Sex/Drug Ed During Unprecedented Times

Rachel Simmons - Health Educator - Candor Health Education

There are five main sources where students may learn about sexual health and drugs: school, friends, family, media, and their environment. Many schools offer programs focusing on these important topics, allowing students to have access to information from reliable sources. Recently, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, more students have been learning through online classes and remote learning. These unprecedented times are difficult for both students and educators, as they have had to navigate learning and teaching in different environments than they are accustomed. Last spring, many districts narrowed the scope of curriculum to focus on core academic subjects, often cutting content such as drug and sex educations.

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IN THE NEWS

Why Students Need Social-Emotional Learning Now

EdWeek



—iStock/Getty Images Plus

School leaders and educators are facing pressures from all quarters when it comes to starting school this fall—whether it's trying to make up for lost learning, navigating the logistical challenges of safely opening school buildings, or steering the political challenges of closing them. All of this is taking place against the backdrop of budget cuts brought on by the economic fallout from the pandemic.

With so many competing demands, some child-development experts are worried that students' social, emotional, and mental well-being will be put on the backburner.

This could be a recipe for disaster.

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FUNDER SPOTLIGHT



Topfer Family Foundation

Cathy McCann - Chicago Program Officer

We're honored to be supported by the Topfer Family Foundation. We were able to catch up with Cathy McCann, Chicago Program Officer, for a Q&A session to gain a little insight into their organization and their support of health education.

- **Can you please tell us about your background and how you became involved with Candor Health Education?** The Topfer Family Foundation has supported Candor Health Education (formerly Robert Crown Center for Health Education) since 2008. Our involvement began when one of our trustee's children experienced the drug education classes while in school.

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ELEARNING BRAIN BREAKS

GIVE YOUR BRAIN A BREAK!

This FREE resource provides 6 SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING activities to give your kids the break that they sometimes need, especially while learning remotely. From breathing to guided imagery to de-escalation...let them give their brain a break. **Check it out!**

[EXPLORE NOW >](#)

IN THE NEWS

Adapting to a New Normal

Magdalena Hamielec - Intern-Candor Health Education



As we approach the new school year, more and more schools are moving online to protect the health of students and staff. This can be a tough transition for both students and parents, as this is a social issue we have never previously encountered on this scale.

As a current college student, the past 4 months have required a lot of adaptability on my part as I navigated the end of my senior year, a summer internship and now the

beginning of my Master's degree in public health. Some challenges I have faced during this period of change have been struggling to keep a consistent schedule, dealing with the added stress of finishing my undergraduate degree during an unprecedented time and the reduction in accessibility to the academic resources such as libraries, advisors and professors I had depended on previously. Using trial and error, I have finally managed to find some methods that work very well for me.

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EXPLORE OUR ALL-NEW DRUG EDUCATION PORTAL



Interactive to engage your kids! Come in and take a look at our NEW Drug Education Portal.

This portal includes graphic novel stories, videos, and even a brain science module to learn more about the different areas of the brain and how drug use impacts brain function.

[TAKE A LOOK >](#)

MEET THE TEAM

Katie Gallagher - Director of Education



Katie joined the Candor Health Education team after working for over twenty years as a teacher and administrator at the elementary and middle school levels. She has a rich background in child development, curriculum development and social emotional learning. As a building principal, Katie provided teachers with ongoing feedback, curricular support and professional development opportunities. She implemented progress monitoring tools to allow for more data-driven decision making regarding student needs and curriculum updates. She worked to improve school/parent communication through the implementation of a schoolwide LMS (learning management system). Katie is looking forward to using her experience in her role as Director of Education at Candor Health Education. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master's degree in Instructional Leadership from Loyola University-Chicago. Katie knows first-hand the value of Candor Health Education programs to students, teachers and families in the schools we serve.



Empowering young people
to make informed decisions



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