

# Student Winners of DHHS 1995 Secretary's Award for Innovations in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

*Each year, the Secretary of Health and Human Services hosts a competition for the Secretary's Award for Innovations in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention. The contest is sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services and administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration of the Public Health Service in cooperation with the Federation of Associations of Schools of the Health Professions.*

*The first place proposal and the abstracts from the two proposals that tied for second place are presented herewith. Each was edited for publication to conform to PHR style. The authors and titles of the 17 proposals that were runners-up follow.*

*Erica Pan, MD MPH  
Dawn Gross  
Andrew Gross, MD  
Damian Bello, MD*

This first place entry was submitted by the Tufts University School of Medicine, Y.S. Bradshaw, DO, Faculty Adviser.

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## Prenatal Power— Education for Life

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### SYNOPSIS

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**Objective.** To expand community service opportunities in health promotion and disease prevention for approximately 20% of the female students at Boston High School, who are pregnant or parenting.

**Methods.** Students at Tufts University School of Medicine created, organized, and taught an interactive curriculum encompassing pre- and postnatal health at Boston High School. Evaluation of program effectiveness is provided by questionnaires completed by participating high school students, medical students, and the high school Health Services Advisor.

**Results.** Short-term outcomes will examine self-esteem, prenatal care knowledge and decision making behavior. Long-term followup will assess outcomes such as birth weight complications, educational status of parents, additional pregnancies, and child health.

**L**ocated in downtown Boston near Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston High School (BHS) draws students from all Boston neighborhoods, including those from the areas with the highest prevalence of poverty in the Boston school system. The enrollment of 1100 is 50% African American, 33% Hispanic, and 16% white, with girls outnumbering boys. An estimated 20% of female students are pregnant or parenting at any given time.

BHS has a Student Health Center (SHC) onsite, which is a satellite of the Adolescent Clinic at New England Medical Center, the main teaching hospital