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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: PFCS

(June 2015, New Philadelphia, Ohio) We are excited to announce that PFCS has received a grant from The Aultman Foundation to help continue the implementation of our substance abuse prevention services in Tuscarawas and Carroll Counties. The grant will allow PFCS to send 12 youth leaders from Carrollton, Dover, New Philadelphia and Tusky Valley High Schools along with two school staff advisors and two staff members from our Youth-Led Prevention programs to the Youth-to-Youth International Conference in Columbus, Ohio from June 22 to June 25, 2015.

The PFCS Youth-Led Prevention programs offer high school aged youth the chance to take an active role in school-wide prevention initiatives and empowers them to make positive change not only in their own lives, but also in the lives of their peers and their communities. The conference will give student and staff a much deeper knowledge of ways to promote a drug-free lifestyle and positive peer influence within the Youth-Led Prevention programs at their respective high schools. Through participating in workshops, small discussion groups and regional youth planning meetings, participants will gain valuable knowledge including leadership skills to develop prevention programming, motivational skills to assist peers who struggle due to lack of awareness about the dangers of drug and alcoholic abuse and alternative activities to promote positive influence in their high schools and communities. The conference allows youth leaders who desire to be positive role models for their peers to gain the tools they need to continue to educate and support others in their decisions to be free of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. "We are so pleased with the youth in our communities who have stepped up to help their fellow students understand the importance of living a healthy lifestyle," says Jodi Salvo, *Coordinator, Takin' to the Schools*. "This conference will allow them to gain the knowledge they need to continue to be ambassadors for prevention and help them develop the skills to make real change in their communities."

About PFCS:

Personal and Family Counseling Services of Tuscarawas Valley, Inc. is a private, non-profit family service agency that assists individuals and families by providing many social services, such as counseling, support, advocacy and education, focusing on prevention as well as treatment. PFCS services are available to all residents of Tuscarawas and Carroll counties. Harbor House is a division of Personal and Family Counseling Services. For more information please contact Pam Trimmer, *Executive Director PFCS*, at 330.343.8171, or ptrimmer@pfcs1.org.