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ATLANTA TEEN EARNS \$10,000 TO KEEP PEERS AWAY FROM SMOKING

TeenH.1.P. Grant Program Helps High School Student Launch Local Youth Smoking Prevention Effort

GREENSBORO, N.C. – March XX, 2002 – Fourteen-year-old Kentavious Robinson feels strongly that kids should not smoke—so strongly that she wants reach out and encourage younger kids in the community not to light up. Thanks to a \$10,000 grant from the TeenH.I.P. Grant Program, Kentavious will partner with the Substance Abuse Prevention Teen Theatre (SAPT), part of the Dunbar Coalition Program, to perform a youth smoking prevention-focused piece for more than 800 elementary and high-school students in the Metro Atlanta area. Kentavious is one of 10 students nationwide who will receive a TeenH.I.P. (Teens Helping Influence People) Grant this month to spread the word that kids should not smoke.

"I wanted to come up with a creative way to teach youth to stay out of trouble and stay away from cigarettes," says Robinson. "I hope this program impacts teens who are considering smoking or already smoke."

Robinson, in conjunction with SAPT, will launch the project in September.

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