

Matthew Brown

Executive Board Member, Georgia Prevention Project

Matthew Brown is currently in his third year at Queens University of Charlotte, where he is pursuing a major in nursing with a minor in Spanish. He serves as a peer tutor, a mentor for first-year students, and a campus ambassador. He is also a recipient of the Golden Door Scholarship, a four-year scholarship that provides immigrant students like him with the opportunity and resources to attend university. Currently our youngest member of the Georgia Prevention Project Executive Board; He is very passionate about community service and making a difference in his community.

Matthew began with GPP through the Kennesaw Teen Advisory Council, one of GPP's student programs that was initiated at Kennesaw Mountain High School. He was passionate to learn more about substance misuse prevention and to find ways to better his community and encourage his peers to stay healthy. He participated in many of K-TAC's program initiatives while he was at Kennesaw Mountain High School, including the annual Red Ribbon Week campaign, Positive Social Norm Campaigns, and collaborations with other prevention organizations in the community. He became president of the organization during his senior year of high school and really helped to inform and advocate for healthy lifestyle choices among his peers. In 2019, he received the Georgia Afterschool & Youth Development Award in the "Rising Star" category for his dedication to K-TAC and his diligence in community service. In 2020, he was invited to serve on our executive board.

When asked about his involvement in substance abuse prevention, Matthew truly feels like a leader among his peers. "This position truly allows me to encourage my peers to make conscious, healthy decisions to live great lives," he says. "Substance misuse prevention is more than just avoiding drugs and harmful substances. It is a conscious effort of making right decisions to make one's future as bright as possible. My work is simply a means to help others—both young and old—understand the importance of making positive choices for themselves."

Matthew currently lives in Acworth, GA with his parents and younger brother. His future plans are to graduate college with a BSN and become a travel nurse.