

Janel Echols

PIPP Program Coordinator

Janel is the Partners in Prevention Project (PIPP) Coordinator for the Georgia Prevention Project. As the PIPP Coordinator, Janel's role includes coordinating efforts in Taliaferro County and providing support for daily activities to accomplish goals of reducing alcohol use and binge drinking among youth ages 9 to 20 years old within Taliaferro County.

Before joining GPP, Janel worked as a Ryan White Case Manager where she provided direct services to HIV positive clients and their families. She was responsible for a caseload of up to 125 HIV+ individuals assessing general health, mental health, and any type of financial and/or legal assistance in order to design a treatment plan that would be effective specifically for each individual. Prior to working as Ryan White Case Manager, Janel interned with Kennesaw State University's Center for Health Promotion and Wellness. During her internship, Janel was responsible for assisting the Health Promotion Coordinator with peer health education programs, recruiting and training new peer health educators, assisting in planning and implementing programs as a certified Peer Health Owl, assisting with planning and preparing for the Run for Recovery and Health Fair hosted each Fall Semester, and assisting with developing marketing materials.

Janel is from Augusta, GA, and she is also a graduate of Kennesaw State University with a Bachelor of Science in Public Health Education. While attending Kennesaw State University, Janel served as a Peer Health Outreach & Wellness leader (OWL) with Kennesaw State University's Center for Health Promotion and Wellness Peer Health Education Program. As a Peer Health Owl, Janel promoted health and well-being through events and presentations to students at KSU and in the metro Atlanta community, assisted in planning and implementing campus wide programs based on needs assessments results, assisted with HIV and Hepatitis C testing events on campus, conducted presentations related to specific health topics campus wide including alcohol awareness, sexual health, and stress management. Janel also is a recent graduate of Georgia Southern University with a Master in Public Health. While attending Georgia Southern University, Janel was a scholar for the Magnolia Coastlands Area Health Education Center. This specific program provides students who are pursuing studies in health professions with an opportunity to practice hands-on training, experience providing care in rural/underserved environments, and work interdisciplinarily with professionals of other backgrounds. Through her valuable experiences, Janel grew passionate about working in community health. In her free time, Janel enjoys cooking, shopping, and crafting.