

JMG'S PROJECT REACH PROGRAM ADOPTED NATIONALLY

Farmingdale – Project Reach, the middle school program of Jobs for Maine's Graduates (JMG), is gaining recognition nationwide. This year the Project Reach model is being adopted by Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) to be rolled out in JAG affiliates throughout the country. Project Reach staff from Maine will act as consultants to the new programs.

Project Reach was created by JMG in 1995 to inspire middle school students to reach their personal potential. Project Reach is unique because it is the only program targeted to this age group that addresses issues as students transition to high school. Project Reach is a project-oriented and adventure-based program.

Project Reach partners with individual schools to increase the success of students. Middle school students participating in Project Reach improve their GPAs (average increase of 63%) and school attendance (average increase of 38%).

There are currently sixteen Project Reach program sites in Maine including a new site in Dover-Foxcroft, SeDoMoCha Middle School. SeDoMoCha Middle School principal Jay Robinson says, "I am very excited at the opportunity to provide selected students with an effective, proven program. Project Reach offers a wonderful means of reconnecting students and their families to the schools, and in doing so students will benefit greatly."

JMG was established in 1993 by the Maine State Legislature and is currently serving approximately 2,500 students in more than 50 school-based sites statewide. The vision of JMG is to be a champion for all students who are facing challenges to education and to guide each one on to a successful path to a brighter future.

For more information about Project Reach or JMG, please contact Maureen Duggan at (207) 582-0924, ext. 216 or email mduggan@jmg.org.

For a complete list of JMG and Project Reach school sites, please visit www.jmg.org