

## **Abstinence a good choice**

I am responding to the letter submitted by Peggy Loonan entitled "Program is fear-based." In her letter, Peggy stated that she had observed a class at Rocky Mountain High School on abstinence that was presented by the Alpha Center and was troubled by what she heard. She stated that the information was

fear-based and nonfactual. I invite anyone who has concerns about this presentation or about the Alpha Center to visit us. We are always available to visit with you about your concerns. The Alpha Center is having an open house from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Wednesday, March 20, and we would encourage people to come.

Ms. Loonan also complained that the presenter did not reveal that the Alpha Center is Christian-based and does not provide for, or refer to, abortions. This is not what abstinence programs are about. Abstinence is a choice that will serve our young people well and remove them from the position of making difficult choices. It will also remove them from the opportunity of contracting a sexually transmitted disease.

Following are quotes from students who have participated in the HEART Choices presentations. "Excellent presentation, well put points, good information, makes me think twice about sex." "This presentation was a really good idea. I think it will help a lot of people." "You did a good job on a difficult topic."

Abstinence-only education is making an impact.

**Sharon Hindman,  
Executive Director,  
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Fort Collins Colorado  
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