Bullying Prevention: Creating a Culture of Acceptance
March 9, 2013 at Indiana Convention Center

Breakout Workshop Session Descriptions

45-Minute Sessions

◆ Body Image and Bullying by Carrie Anderson, MA, NCC and Alyee Willets

This seminar will focus on 1) the effects body image and bullying have on one another, 2) how both media and family paradigms foster a culture of body non-acceptance, and 3) primary, secondary, and tertiary stages of prevention.

Carrie Anderson serves as the Program Therapist at Selah House, an inpatient eating disorder treatment facility located in Anderson, IN. Carrie primarily practices from an experiential therapy model, incorporating art therapy, writing therapy, and body movement therapy through yoga. Her passion for counseling is to see individuals overcome brokenness to walk in the wholeness.

Alyee Willets is an aspiring art therapist with dreams that reach beyond the horizons of her past eating disorder. Her passion is to see those who are set free to live in a way that brings joy and healing to all that they meet.

◆ Bully 101 by Sandy Runkle-DeLorme

This session will introduce basic concepts and definitions around bullying behaviors. This training is appropriate for parents, community members, educators and professionals who work with children.

Sandy Runkle-DeLorme is currently the Director of Programs at Prevent Child Abuse Indiana. She has been employed at Prevent Child Abuse Indiana since August of 2000. She has both teaching and training experience, as well as experience working with youth and working in the Child Welfare System. She received her undergraduate degree in psychology in 1987 and her master’s degree in social work in 1995. She has provided over 1,500 trainings in topics related to child maltreatment.

◆ Creating Safe and Caring School Cultures by Mark Cosand

Creating a culture of care and safety in school takes work - teachers need to be learners and learners need to be teachers. All have to want to make school a safe place to be in order for there to be a proper learning environment. In the creation of relationships, we need to be able to see the differences we all have and be accepting of them. This session will use a brief article by Margaret Wheatley, “Willing to be Disturbed,” from her book Turning to One Another and will highlight the importance of everyone's role in creating a culture shift in schools to promote caring, nurturing and safe environments.

Mark Cosand has a passion for leading school reform. He has been an educator since 1987 and has always looked for innovation in leading his classroom, professional development and schools. Mark has created and helped organize several small schools throughout Indianapolis over the last 10 years. While doing this he also became a National Facilitator of Critical Friends Group, which he uses for professional development and data-based decision making.
Every Student Deserves to Feel Safe: Supporting our LGBTQ Students by Graham Brinklow

Find out the current state of school life for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning students, and what you can do to promote safety and respect for LGBTQ youth and their straight friends in your schools.

Graham Brinklow has worked to help youth respect their differences since September 1991. He was an educational actor for Indianapolis Civic Theatre's "Kid Connection" for 3 years, and spent 7.5 years helping to start and grow the educational acting department at The Children's Museum of Indianapolis. Since September of 2008, as their Education Outreach Coordinator, Graham has helped Indiana Youth Group build their Indiana Gay Straight Alliance Network from just 8 groups to 50 groups across the state, with 35 more trying to start or restart. He also facilitates LGBTQ 101 Cultural Competency trainings for DCS, Marion County Juvenile Justice workers, the EEOC, on college campuses for future teachers and counselors, for churches, for Sexual Assault Case workers, and employees of homeless shelters.

The Importance of Adults as Mentors and Advocates for Children by Clete Ladd

The objectives of this session are to: 1) instruct teachers, coaches and parents how to bring out the best in youth without bullying them, and 2) teach adults how to effectively deal with bullies without "fighting back."

Clete Ladd is the Director of the Excel Center, an adult high school in Decatur Township, which caters to the needs of students ages 16 to 61. He is also an associate faculty member at University of Phoenix. He presents at conferences on mentoring, education, diversity and gangs. Clete earned his master's degree from Martin University and has additional graduate/certification degrees in education and theology from Indiana University and Oakland City University. He founded MALE, Inc., a boys-to-men mentoring organization. His awards and honors include: Martin University Alumni Hall of Fame; University of Phoenix Faculty of the Year Nominee; NIKE Coaches Award; City of Indianapolis Community Service Award; Boys and Girls Club Alumni of the Year.

Is Inclusion Enough? How Teachers Can Create Accepting and Need-Based Learning Environments by Dr. Cynthia Jackson

Today's students with disabilities are included in the fabric of most classrooms. Often their behaviors or challenges are judged negatively by peers or other adults. Negative outcomes can be diminished when teachers intentionally create accepting and need-based learning communities and environments. This session will aim to increase awareness of bullying involving students with disabilities, and provide tools for professionals to use to increase understanding and acceptance of students with disabilities.

Dr. Jackson has been a behavioral specialist with Indianapolis Public Schools for 18 years. In this position she supports students with disabilities, especially students with emotional disabilities, while working with teachers, school support staff and parents. She is the primary district trainer for Positive Behavior Supports. Dr. Jackson has also served youth and the community through participating on the Boards of the Mental Health Association of Greater Indianapolis, Peace Learning Center, ICART, Indiana Council for Exceptional Children, Indiana Council for Children with Behavior Disorders and MCCOY.

Parent & Youth Discussion Panel on the Effects of Bullying facilitated by Jacqueline Garvey

The Indiana Partnerships Center will facilitate a “fishbowl" conversation for three parents and three youth to discuss their diverse experiences with bullying in the school setting, and the effects on their individual families. Participants may join the conversation with comments and questions.

Jackie Garvey has served as the Executive Director of the Indiana Partnerships Center for the past 10 years. Her professional experiences include 25 years of developing and implementing school/community partnerships through school-based leadership programs. As Director of the Partnerships Center, she created the Indiana Academy for Parent Leadership, which has now trained hundreds of Indiana parents and educators in over 65 counties to engage, equip and empower families to better connect to their children’s education and school. She is a contributing author along with Anne Henderson in Current Issues in Teacher Education: History, Perspectives, and Implications (2008).
Teen Court: Using Positive Peer Pressure to Prevent Juvenile Delinquency

Teen Court is a peer lead prevention program that works with first time non-violent offenders in our community. Reach For Youth has two Teen Court programs. The traditional Teen Court program has been serving central Indiana juvenile probation departments and youthful offenders for over 20 years, while the newest model is now in schools addressing school behavior infractions. Learn how positive peer pressure and constructive consequences are helping teens make better decisions and turn from "troubled youth" to thriving young adults!

Michelle Study-Campbell is the President and CEO of Reach For Youth. With more than ten years experience in creating successful human services and youth-development programs, she has generated a renewed sense of commitment and energy to the work of Reach For Youth and their prevention programming. Her career and personal affiliations demonstrate a focused commitment to youth and the nonprofit sector. Before coming to Reach For Youth, she served as Director of Strategic Initiatives for the Indianapolis Private Industry Council, Inc. While there, she created the award-winning "Biotech Bound" program which provides financial resources and counseling for at-risk young adults, enabling them to pursue degrees for high-demand life sciences careers. A graduate of the Stanly K. Lacy LEAD program, Study-Campbell has a Master’s of Public Affairs with a concentration in nonprofit management from Indiana University and is currently the Vice President of Financial Development for the Junior League of Indianapolis.

Creating the "Fabric" of a Stronger Community by Carol Tharp-Perrin

In this experiential, interactive workshop participants will produce a painted quilt that celebrates unity through diversity. This process will present a means for developing community dynamics that include and support productive learning, rather than exclude and undermine learning outcomes. Respect and response guidelines will be used to explore common ground and integrate meaningful differences in the "fabric" of a stronger community.

Carol Tharp-Perrin has dedicated her life to integrating the arts into more public accessibility, from murals to interdisciplinary performance art. She has piloted and initiated programs for underserved, at-risk populations such as Artreach, serving federal housing communities through the Indianapolis Art Center, and Summer Arts for Youth, serving homeless families and other at-risk populations, for over 20 years. She also initiated the first artist programs in the Marion County Juvenile Detention Center and the Hispanic Education Center, beginning with mural painting and expanding across disciplines with other artists into Arts for Learning programs. She has taught at Herron School of Art in Indianapolis, the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and the Arapongas College of Humanities in Brazil.

Cyberbullying and Schools: What Schools Need to Know About Bullying and the Law by Nancy Willard and Amy Matthews

This workshop will focus on the legal standards for bullying and harassment in schools and explore the issues related to the First Amendment.

As Director of the Center for Safe and Responsible Internet Use, Nancy Willard provides guidance and training for educators and other youth by serving professionals on youth risk online issues. She has degrees in both law and special education and has practiced computer law, taught at-risk children, and served as an educational technology consultant before turning her attention to issues of youth online. She frequently lectures and conducts workshops for educators on internet policies, practices, and management of student internet use. Her most recent book is entitled Cyber Savvy: Embracing Digital Safety and Civility (2011, Corwin Press).

Amy Matthews is an Associate at the law office of Church, Church, Hittle & Antrim in Noblesville, Indiana. Ms. Matthews’s areas of concentration include school law and other educational entities in various matters including human resources, labor relations, special education, and fiscal administration. She also provides mediation services for civil and family law matters. Ms. Matthews has been a frequent speaker for statewide organizations such as the Indiana School Boards Association, the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents, and the Indiana Association of School Business Officials. Ms. Matthews’s current support for community organizations includes board membership for Aspire Indiana Behavioral Health System and program facilitation for Girls, Inc. of Greater Indianapolis.
The Flexibility of Restorative Practices by Mark Taxter

This session will explore the various uses of restorative practices and their use in the field of criminal justice, including the success the Community Impact Panel (CIP) has had for over 10 years as a diversion option. This session will also focus on efforts to reduce bullying and juvenile crime by combining the use of community mediation and family group case conferencing currently being used at juvenile court as a pilot project.

Mr. Taxter currently works for the Marion County Prosecutor’s Office (MCPO) as the Coordinator for Conflict Resolution Services, which is part of the Community Prosecution Division. MCPO Conflict Resolution Services (CRS) was created in March 2002 as a service component of the newly created Community Court. CRS provides community mediation, community impact panels, defendant awareness classes, intake services and a life skills class called Moving On Purpose for the prosecutor’s office. Prior to his current position, Mr. Taxter worked in the dispute resolution field for over twenty-five years in Houston, Texas and Queens, New York as a mediator, trainer, advocate and program director.

Research and Evidence-Based Programs to Prevent Bullying and Peer Aggression in Schools by Dan Claassen

This workshop will focus on the importance of utilizing research and evidence-based approaches to preventing bullying in schools.

Dan Claassen is co-founder and president of My Cyber Guardian Educational Services, Inc., an Indiana based non-profit organization. After a decade in local law enforcement with much of his career in internet crimes against children investigation and seeing the connection between technology and all forms of peer victimization, Mr. Claassen saw a need for true prevention work not based on fear mongering. This led to the creation of the non-profit and the "Become An Upstander" programming. This programming teaches children and youth not to be bystanders, but instead Upstanders for others through student led peer norming and social-emotional skills learning for early childhood. The Become an Upstander programs also work to assemble community resources for those youth already victimized or at high risk for victimization. In addition to his work in law enforcement, Mr. Claassen served as an adjunct professor for Harrison College, is a trained child forensic interviewer and serves as a back-up interviewer for a child advocacy center. He is passionate about bringing true community-based, research driven and best practices solutions to the issues of bullying, cyber-bullying, and teen dating violence.

Strategies to Improve School Culture by Reducing Bias and Bullying by Jennifer Nielson

The goals of this session are to:

- Assist participants in analyzing their school climates and developing strategies for engaging the entire community in improving school cultures as they relate to bias and bullying.
- Examine the four roles in bias and bullying incidents (aggressor, target, bystander, ally) and provide strategies for moving students toward the ally role.

Jennifer Nielson is an Associate Director and Project Coordinator of the A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute in the Chicago office of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL). She is responsible for directing the overall operation of the A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute, including anti-bias program administration and evaluation, marketing, outreach, trainer recruitment and management, lay leader involvement, and fundraising and budgeting.

Tribe Discussion Panel: Building a Positive School Culture to Address Bullying by Elizabeth Odle, Mary Palin, Marilyn Turner, and Wendy Harrison

Learn, in an interactive way, how Tribe is a preventative bullying process that builds a positive learning community and develops effective interpersonal skills.

Elizabeth Odle is currently the Director of "Bridges To Success" which is a partnership between United Way of Central Indiana (UWCI) and Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS). She is a retired IPS elementary school principal and IPS District Tribe trainer. She has had experience working with a very diverse group of students and families within a Title 1 School. During her 33 years as an educator, she enjoyed working with families and teaching students with special needs. As an administrator, Liz believed in meeting the needs of the whole child. Therefore, great emphasis was placed on embracing family and community engagement to assure that their school had a safe, caring and nurturing environment for teachers to teach and for students to learn.
Mary Palin began teaching 25 years ago with a process called Tribes. Since then, success and experience with the Tribes process has sent her to numerous schools throughout the United States, and she facilitates the “training of trainers” in the U.S., Canada and Australia. Mary has used the Tribes TLC process to create and facilitate strategies and activities to engage students and staff in creating a culture that encourages participation, reflective practice and an appreciative point of view. Tribes TLC teaches and models relationship skills, responsible decision-making, self awareness, self-management, and social awareness – core competencies of social-emotional learning.

Marilyn Turner is a retired primary school teacher and an active Tribes trainer from Ontario, Canada. She has had experience working with teachers at all grade levels within her district, within the province and internationally. The focus of her mentoring has been to help teachers build positive learning communities. Her classroom experiences give her insight into the dynamics of bullying and she has worked to recognize and articulate that focusing on the whole child and building strong interpersonal skills helps students to deal positively with peers. She has been recognized as Distinguished Educator of the Year within her district.

Wendy Harrison is a retired elementary school principal from Ontario, Canada. During her years as an educator, she enjoyed teaching primary to senior secondary aged students. Wendy also served as Special Educational Coordinator within her district. She provided leadership on District and Community Committees to develop bullying policies and curriculum guidelines. As Marilyn’s Tribes training partner, she has worked with teachers at all grade levels within her district, within the province, and internationally.

❖ **Today’s Challenges and Successes in Bullying Prevention by Claude McNeal and the ACT OUT Ensemble**

The ACT OUT Ensemble is Indiana’s largest and longest running anti-bullying prevention program, and the state’s longest-running social-issue theatre troupe. Under the auspices of Indianapolis non-profit arts education organization, Claude McNeal Productions, the ACT OUT Ensemble is nationally renowned. *The Washington Post, CNN, Teen People Magazine,* and many other publications have recognized ACT OUT’s excellence in performing original work that engages audiences on social, educational and health issues. Since its inception in 1995, more than 500,000 people nationwide have experienced the transforming power of ACT OUT’s live, interactive theatre. The Ensemble, comprised of professional local actors, performs on a variety of issues, including bullying and teasing, alcohol and drug abuse, diversity and tolerance, self-esteem, conflict resolution, eating disorders, date rape, suicide, literacy, the high school drop out rate, and others, and also on major world events such as the Columbine School Shootings in 1999.

Claude McNeal is the Founder and former Artistic Director of the American Cabaret Theatre in Indianapolis (1990-2005). McNeal has written, directed, and produced plays throughout the U.S. and Europe for more than 30 years, including New York City, New Haven, CT, Indianapolis, Cleveland, Tampa, Branson, Glacier Park, Montana, Toronto, Boston, Seattle, Palm Springs and more. A graduate of Yale Drama School and an acknowledged master in the field of contemporary cabaret, his work as a playwright has been recognized by awards from the Dramatists Guild, Authors League of America, and Rockefeller Foundation. McNeal has also initiated theatre programs at the University of New Haven and Sacred Heart University, where he founded the Humanities Theatre Group in 1986, and a summer theatre training program at Glacier National Park, Montana. He has been a tenured Professor in the English and Music Departments (now retired) at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, where he taught creative writing and musical interpretation. McNeal was also head of a highly successful collaboration with the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center in Tampa, Florida, which began in 1995. McNeal recently formed Claude McNeal Productions, a non-profit entity which consults in artistic programming and organizational strengthening. The ACT OUT Ensemble is under the umbrella of Claude McNeal Productions.

❖ **What is the Relationship between Bullying and Psychiatric Disorders? by Joshua Lowinsky, M.D.**

Dr. Lowinsky will illustrate how bullying is linked to chronic disease in adulthood, causes toxic brain changes that affect learning, behavior and health, and the relationship between bullying and psychiatric disorders and suicide.

Dr. Lowinsky practices child, adolescent, adult and family psychiatry for Children’s Resource Group and Indianapolis Public Schools. A frequent presenter to professional and lay audiences on topics related to psychiatry, Dr. Lowinsky works with Medical Education Resources (MER), a continuing medical education company, to develop and present a psychiatry curriculum for primary care physicians. Dr. Lowinsky recently cofounded the Primary Care Psychiatry Foundation whose mission is to educate and train primary care physicians and systems of care in the early identification, accurate diagnosis, effective treatment, and appropriate referral of patients with psychiatric disorders. Dr. Lowinsky is the chairman of the primary care psychiatry committee of the Indianapolis Psychiatric Society. He is also a board examiner for the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology. Dr. Lowinsky is convinced of the importance of focusing substantial community efforts on the prevention of psychiatric disorders. Prevention of bullying is an important piece of this focus!