Bullying is widespread and of great concern to many of us – including young people, families, educators, youth workers and other community members. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, bullying is a form of youth violence that can cause physical injury, social and emotional distress, and even death. Bullying has serious consequences which put youth at higher risk for substance abuse, academic problems, mental health issues, and violence in adolescence and adulthood.

While schools across the country have stepped up efforts to protect students from harassment, intimidation and physical violence, support is needed to help adults in a variety of youth settings learn ways to work with young people to build healthy relationships and settings. Educators, youth workers and families all have important roles to play in creating environments that foster healthy social and emotional development.

Providing adults with opportunities to explore and connect around these issues is the focus of a Michigan State University Extension workshop titled ABCs of Bullying Prevention: Addressing Bullying in Community Settings. This half-day workshop is designed for adults who live with, care about and work with young people, including parents, caregivers and those who work in schools, youth and family agencies, youth organizations (such as 4-H, Scouts, and Boys and Girls Clubs), juvenile justice, faith-based communities, recreation departments and other community groups.

During the ABCs of Bullying Prevention workshop, participants will:

- Share perspectives on the prevalence and types of bullying behaviors affecting their communities – and explore how these perspectives connect with recent research.
- Examine bullying, bias and harassment through the lens of differences.
- Explore key strategies for addressing these complex issues at the personal, interpersonal, institutional and cultural levels.
- Learn about programs and resources that can be used in community settings, including an MSU Extension initiative titled Be SAFE: Safe, Affirming and Fair Environments.

The workshop will be facilitated by Holly Tiret. It is based on the work of MSU Extension program leaders Janet Olsen and Karen Pace, who are co-directors of Be SAFE: Safe, Affirming and Fair Environments.
Registration Form

Workshop Specifics

Date:
Thursday
5-21-13

Time:
6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Location:
Great Start to Quality Western Resource Center—Ludington
409 W Ludington Avenue
Suite 203
Ludington, MI 49431

Registration cost:
$20

For more information, contact:
Holly Tiret
tiret@anr.msu.edu
616-336-8998

ABCs of Bullying Prevention:
Addressing Bullying in Community Settings

Please complete this form and return it to the address below. Make checks payable to Michigan State University. Please make copies of this form as needed and use one form per person.

Name: ______________________________________________

Agency/Organization: _________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________

Phone: _____________________________________________

Email: ______________________________________________

Payment enclosed: $ ______________ Payable to MSU

Send to:
MSUE Kent County
Attn: Holly Tiret
775 Ball Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting Holly Tiret by 5-1-13 to make arrangements. Requests received after this date will be fulfilled when possible.

For more information about MSU Extension resources and events related to bullying prevention, visit: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/topic/info/bullying

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