



NO PLACE FOR HATE®

Spring 2010

GREELEY WEST HIGH SCHOOL

The Greeley West High School No Place for Hate® 24-member coalition participated in the A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute's Becoming an Ally: Interrupting Name-Calling and Bullying training on January 14. Since the training, the students have conducted a presentation at a local elementary school, focused on the topic of better understanding and defining bullying. The coalition also explained the No Place for Hate® program and what this means to the elementary students as they enter middle school and then on to high school. They are working to deliver similar presentations via assemblies to as many elementary schools as request the program.

The Greeley West program was lauded by Augustine Lopez, a Migrant Graduation Advocate, who said "As a result of the No Place for Hate® involvement last year and this year, Greeley West High School is now a safer place for students to focus on their academics."

DURANGO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LEARNS EMPOWERMENT



"Now I know I can relax, not fight and settle it in the right way."

Durango High School students, along with their No Place for Hate® School Coalition Sponsor, Ms. Maria Gonzales, are working to achieve their designation for the second year. This year's effort began in October with the two-day Peer Training Program. A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute's Peer Education programs prepare middle and high school students to work with their peers and younger students to confront bias and prejudice in their schools and communities. The Peer Trainers continue to meet 2 hours each week after school to help implement the strategies learned in the training. Sabine Furtauer, Durango High School teacher, stated "students [are] becoming more aware of the language they use around diversity issues. I frequently hear students say to classmates, 'No place for hate!', when they overhear an intolerant comment."

One student, Dedrick Meza, explains how the program has helped him: "I was walking alone and a group of white kids called me wetback and asked what was I doing in this country. I didn't say anything but kept walking. They threw a pop at me and started punching me onto the ground and started kicking me. No one helped me. I decided I could not trust white people anymore. When I took the Peer Training [Program], I realized that not all whites would be like those who did that to me. Now I know I can relax, not fight and settle it in the right way." His ability to share his story, reflect on his own feelings and then demonstrate commitment to anti-bias education is evidence of the program at work in the school.

CALLING ALL ALLIES

ADL is proud to launch the No Place for Hate® "Calling All Allies" contest! This exciting new opportunity allows elementary, middle and high school students to share their stories about the impact of bullying and the importance of being an ally. Additional contest information will be available with the start our 2010-2011 program campaign!



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KUDOS KORNER

Anne Gross, No Place for Hate® School Volunteer Liaison, has been working closely with Dawn McWilliams, School Coalition Sponsor at Arkansas Elementary School in organizing the school's designation and attending meetings with the school's coalition. The school is well on its way to completing its inaugural year as a No Place for Hate® school! Anne has given freely of her time in guiding the way for Arkansas Elementary School as they work towards their 2009-2010 designation. Thank you Anne!



Arkansas Elementary

CHERRY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL'S BRUINS SQUAD

The BRUINS Squad, which stands for: Becoming Respectful Unified Insightful No-Hate Students is the No Place for Hate® coalition at Cherry Creek High School. The BRUINS Squad has already sponsored two major events, with another late February. At the first event, in November, former Columbine High School student Craig Scott came and spoke to the entire student body (3500 students) about his experiences at Columbine the day of the shooting. His program, called Rachel's Challenge, is based on his sister's journals and her personal goals of eliminating hate. Rachel Scott, who was killed in the Columbine attack, wrote in her high school diary about how people have the power to "start a chain reaction" of good deeds and attitudes by being kind to people and showing them compassion.

After Craig Scott presented, the BRUINS Squad organized students to make a giant paper chain to symbolize the chain reaction. On the chain links, students wrote down goals that would help them feel good about themselves and many of them committed to reducing hate by doing small, but important, acts of kindness.

Beth Montgomery, Social Studies teacher, reported that "student reception to this activity was intense and welcome. The No Place for Hate® program has helped unify several groups at Cherry Creek High School to keep a focus on anti-discrimination and to promote education to help [combat] prejudice and hate."

For their second program, the BRUINS Squad conducted a four-hour workshop for a diverse group of Lakewood High School students. The BRUINS Squad students conducted activities from the A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute Peer Training Program.

MILLER MIDDLE SCHOOL GLOBAL CALL TO ACTION



Durango's Miller Middle School's No Place for Hate® coalition, PEAT, Prejudice Elimination Action Team, is partnering with PeaceJam, a foundation formed to create young leaders committed to positive change in themselves, their communities and the world. They are working on three of PeaceJam's 10 Global Calls to Action: Ending Racism and Hate; Social Justice and Human Rights for All; and Breaking the Cycle of Violence. In each project, they must research the issue and its root causes, and develop a plan to address the problem.

Last semester, PeaceJam gave a presentation on the organization and its Global Call to Actions. PEAT, DEL ALMA (Durango Educational Alliance for Multicultural Achievement) and PeaceJam are collaborating to create a visual display that will address the three Global Calls to Action.



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PONDEROSA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PAUSE TIME

Ponderosa Elementary School has integrated what they have learned from their Becoming an Ally workshop into an already existing program, Pause Time, which involves the entire student body. In addition, all of the elementary school students are participating in three lessons reinforcing the theme of being an ally.

ALLIES SPEAK OUT

As a result of the school's participation in the No Place for Hate® campaign, [Ms. Guarino] has seen a decrease in bullying.

Kami Guarino, Assistant to the Principal and No Place for Hate® School Volunteer Liaison, stated that as a result of the school's participation in the No Place for Hate® campaign, she has seen a decrease in bullying. "The students address issues in a timely manner instead of waiting days or weeks to report an incident. There is also a better awareness of what is right, wrong, acceptable and not acceptable." According to Ms. Guarino, Ponderosa Elementary School appears to be more of a community with increased empathy and acceptance of one another.

SOUTHERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL'S GROUND BREAKING WORK



Southern Hills Middle School is in the middle of working towards its second year as a No Place for Hate® school. Southern Hills is "plowing new ground" this year as they are the first school in the Mountain States Region to receive training for students on the topic of cyber-bullying. The 25-member student coalition, comprised of 6th, 7th and 8th graders, has been meeting since September.



The student coalition participated in a field test of a new A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute program, CyberALLY, in November. Since then, they have been meeting prior to the start of classes twice a month to plan their next steps.

WHITING HIGH SCHOOL



Whiting High School is working to become designated a No Place for Hate® school for its second year. Their coalition meets weekly, and will continue to do so for the remainder of the school year. Over two-thirds of the student body and faculty signed the Resolution of Respect in early October 2009.

On October 15, 2009, the school participated in a Becoming an Ally workshop for the second year in a row. The training engaged the entire student body and most of the staff.



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RANGEVIEW HIGH SCHOOL MIX IT UP AT LUNCH DAY



Tara Henderson, Diversity and Equity Trainer said, "The No Place for Hate campaign has positively impacted the climate at Rangeview. Staff and students appear to be more aware of biases and they are trying to be more attentive to each other's needs."

As a part of their designation process, Rangeview High School participated in *Mix-It-Up at Lunch Day* in November 2009. Students had to sign in and agree to introduce themselves to at least three people they did not know. Each pair of students was given three minutes to share information with each other that included their name, grade and the culture/country they identified with.

In the background, a variety of music was played from several different genres & countries. After completing three introductions, the students were given No Place for Hate® buttons for their participation in this activity.

It was a huge success and very low budget. Many students have asked when they would be able to repeat this activity.

GATEWAYHIGH SCHOOL'S INAUGURAL YEAR

Gateway High School has joined our No Place for Hate® program for its first year. In October 2009, 13 staff members participated in an A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE® Institute Teacher Training Program. Victoria Good, counselor and Teacher Training participant said: "It is a profound experience to see staff come together in discourse inclusive of discomfort and uncertainty...this is when we know we are truly growing and becoming...better Human Beings."

ALLIES SPEAK OUT

"With everything going on in the world today, the opportunity for diversity training helps put things in perspective...There truly is no place for hate."

Participants came away from the training with a stronger sense of awareness about bias-related issues in the school and a desire to use that awareness to help make Gateway High School a more culturally aware school. One staff member stated that they would like to continue the process begun at the Teacher Training by using the skills and knowledge obtained to help develop a game plan for ongoing professional development.

Said Roslyn Underwood, Gateway High School Staffing Chairperson, "With everything going on in the world today, the opportunity for diversity training helps put things in perspective and provides a lens for other insights and positive experiences. There truly is no place for hate."



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RAMPART HIGH SCHOOL NO NAME-CALLING WEEK



"We are having a fabulous year recognizing diversity and multiculturalism. I think we successfully brought attention to a longstanding issue in high school, while making it relevant to our student body," stated Kenneth Latka, Rampart High School's Assistant Principal.

As an example, during *No Name-Calling Week*, January 18 – 22, 2010, Rampart High School's Multicultural Club helped bring awareness to the issue of name-calling, taunts and bullying by distributing a pin and ribbon to the entire staff and student population (approximately 1,750). The ribbon was used to bring attention to and open dialogue about the problem of name-calling in the school. The hope is that the dialogue will be ongoing and generate ideas about how to eliminate name-calling in their school.

NO PLACE FOR HATE 2010 - 2011

If you are interested in becoming designated a No Place for Hate® school follow the process outlined at: <http://regions.adl.org/mountain-states/pdfs/2010-2011-steps-for-becoming-a-npvh-school-print.pdf>

The first step to becoming designated in the 2010-2011 school year is to submit an intent form, found at: <http://regions.adl.org/mountain-states/pdfs/2010-2011-npvh-intent-form.pdf> to ADL **no later than October 29, 2010.**

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