



PRESS RELEASE

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LINCS/BiasHELP: Committed to Reducing Bullying on Long Island

As there were four reported teen suicides linked to bullying in the month of September alone, LINCS/BiasHELP, the Long Island Network of Community Services and its affiliate organization, BiasHELP, Inc. are deeply concerned about the impact of bullying on children as well as the impact bullying has on the school as a whole. We believe that an action is considered as bullying behavior when someone repeatedly and on purpose says or does mean or hurtful things to another person who has a hard time defending himself or herself. Bullying can seriously affect the emotional, physical, and academic well-being of children who are bullied and contribute to a negative school climate.

LINCS/BiasHELP are committed to reducing the incidences of bullying in Long Island schools and communities. After doing extensive research we have identified the **Olweus Bullying Prevention Program** as the foremost bullying prevention program available. It is a whole school program that has been proven to prevent or reduce bullying throughout a school setting.

In addition, the **Olweus Bullying Prevention Program** has received recognition from a number of organizations including: **Blueprints Model Program**, Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, University of Colorado at Boulder; **Model Program**, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; **Effective Program**, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, U.S. Department of Justice; and **Level 2 Program**, U.S. Department of Education.

As it is highly recommended that schools work with certified Olweus trainers on the implementation of the program, our staff have become the **only certified Olweus trainers on Long Island**. For more information on the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program visit www.hazeldon.org/olweus or www.clemson.edu/olweus

Contact us at (631) 479-0010 in order to discuss the program, its benefits, and the prospect of implementing it in your school.