



Lindsay Ann Burke MEMORIAL FUND

Supporting the prevention of relationship violence.

LABMF Newsletter, Edition 6

Spring 2010

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“My Angel” Jewelry for Peace fundraiser

Help support our mission to prevent dating violence through education with a donation to the Lindsay Ann Burke Memorial Fund. For your donation, you will receive your choice of earrings, bracelets, or necklaces, made from the heart by Lindsay's mom and sister-in-law. Each piece of jewelry comes packaged with a warning signs card and makes a lovely and meaningful gift for a friend, daughter, niece, granddaughter, or even yourself! Our signature “My Angel” bracelet, designed by Lindsay's friend Jackie, is now available. Visit www.labmf.org to order.



RI's comprehensive Lindsay Ann Burke Act: A model for the nation.

Nebraska was the first state to pass the Lindsay Ann Burke Act, sponsored by Attorney General Jon Bruning in 2009. In December 2009, Ohio became the second state to pass a comprehensive dating violence education law based on Lindsay's law, known as the “Tina Croucher Act”, named after Tina Croucher who was murdered at age 18. Her parents, Jim & Elsa Croucher, founded Citizens Against Domestic Violence and have been giving dating violence presentations for students in Ohio.

Presently, **Pennsylvania is pursuing legislation** based on Lindsay's law as well. Demi Brae Cuccia was murdered at age 16. Today her father Gary is determined to help save other teens through education. He has lobbied for passage of dating violence education legislation in his home state of PA. This law, based on Lindsay's law, recently passed the House and is awaiting passage in the Senate. If you are a PA resident, please call your state Senators and urge them to pass this legislation.

Recently, **Indiana passed “Heather's Law,”** and Sen. Linda Gray of **Arizona is pursuing legislation** with the help of Bobbi Sudberry, mother of Kaity, who was murdered at age 17. **Louisiana is also pursuing legislation.**

LABMF ANNOUNCES DATING VIOLENCE TRAINING DVD

LABMF proudly announces that its original dating violence workshop for school staff as well as health teachers will be available on DVD this summer. It will provide schools with the flexibility to train staff according to their school schedule. **More info coming via our website www.labmf.org.**



“IMAGINE... peace.”

National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month

In December of 2009, US SENATE passes RESOLUTION officially declaring February as National Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month, co-sponsored by RI Senators Sheldon Whitehouse & Jack Reed, this is the first time an entire month is devoted to this cause!!

Funding for Teen Dating Violence Education!

The US Dept of Education is presently revising the Elementary & Secondary Education Act, known as “No Child Left Behind”. Current revisions include teen dating violence education funding under Office of Safe & Drug Free Schools.

LABMF PRESENTS HEALTH TEACHER TRAINING IN CT

Upon the invitation of the Center for Youth Leadership in Norwalk, CT, LABMF presented our workshop and trained health teachers from Brien McMahon High School, Greenwich High School, and Stamford High School in Nov. 2009. It was a pleasure to meet such dedicated teachers who have vowed to teach their students about dating violence.

Some of their post-workshop comments were:

"This is an extremely useful topic that Needs to be taught in all high schools in the country. Administrators, guidance counselors, resource officers should be included in the presentations. Thank you!"

"Great Job. Gave lots of valuable tools to help us teach a difficult topic. Thank you for your high energy and thoroughness."

"Thank you for presenting this workshop to our staff. I found this workshop to be very informational to me as a health educator and parent."

SAVE THE DATE!

October 28, 2010

Join us for our third annual "Imagine," a buffet dinner/dance at the Atlantic Beach Club in Middletown, RI including a raffle and music by DJ Mike Delyi. Help support the work of LABMF through the purchase of a ticket or table. Tickets become available in August. Visit labmf.org for more details.

Spreading our Message

NIGHTLY NEWS WITH KATIE COURIC & FOX AND FRIENDS:

This past winter Katie Couric interviewed Ann and aired a comprehensive news segment featuring the Lindsay Ann Burke Act, emphasizing the need for dating violence education laws. Fox & Friends' Gretchen also ran a news segment featuring an interview with Ann on the same topic as well. Following both news airings, LABMF received several emails from individuals who live out-of-state and wanted to know how they could promote dating violence education in their state and get a similar law passed.

RI DELTA STATE STEERING COMMITTEE

LABMF was invited to join the statewide steering committee for the federally funded program DELTA, Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership Through Alliances. The committee oversees the program objectives for a coordinated community response to domestic violence across Rhode Island.

LOUISIANA APPLESEED SPONSORS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Ann participated, via Skype, in a Roundtable Discussion on the prevention of teen dating violence through education sponsored by Louisiana Appleseed, a network of pro-bono lawyers who work for social justice. This event, co-sponsored by the LA Attorney General's office, the LA Dept of Education, and Kean Miller Law Firm, had over 50 participants including a state representative, a district attorney, and 2 family court judges. According to Jeanine Sullivan, Legal Fellow, "It was the first time that educators, policy makers, legal professionals and domestic violence service providers gathered to discuss the topic. Forty-two people signed on to continue the task of promoting education of Louisiana youth to prevent relationship abuse. It was our intention with this task force to determine the most cost-effective and efficient method we could to ensure our children would receive this information." LABMF is grateful for the opportunity to share it's experience with LA.

2010 LABMF DATING VIOLENCE POSTER CONTEST WINNER

2010 Theme: Healthy Relationships

Mike Valdez
Warwick Area
Career &
Technical Center



Go to labmf.org for 2nd and 3rd place winners along with other notable entries.

NEW WEBSITES:



www.netSMARTZ.org

Digital dating abuse is escalating as the use of technology increases among teens. Parents, teens, and teachers can find valuable information on this website.

www.thatsnotcool.com

Digital dating abuse info for teens

***277 Heath Teachers from
98 R.I. Middle and High Schools
have already been trained!
To see a list of schools, visit
www.labmf.org/fund/workshops***

The Lindsay Ann Burke Memorial Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable corporation.

Donations are tax deductible and can be sent to:

Lindsay Ann Burke Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 1748, North Kingstown, RI 02852