



Lindsay Ann Burke MEMORIAL FUND

Supporting the prevention of relationship violence.

LABMF Newsletter, Edition 8

Fall 2011

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“IMAGINE... peace.”

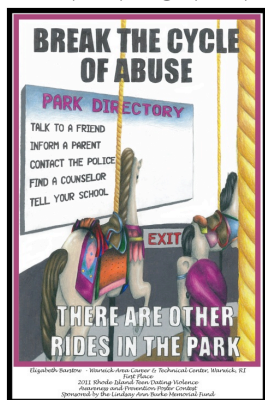
National Foundation of Women Legislators Supports Dating Violence Education

LABMF President Ann Burke attended the NFWL Annual Conference in Des Moines, Iowa in August. She spoke at a luncheon sponsored by Liz Claiborne Inc, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the Verizon Foundation. The luncheon's theme was “The Power of Partnerships: Taking a Stand Against Teen Dating Abuse.” Ann spoke of LABMF's work, the Love Is Not Abuse Coalition which she and husband Chris co-founded with Liz Claiborne Inc, the importance of partnerships in preventing DV through education, and introduced Bobbi Sudberry from AZ, whose daughter was murdered by an ex-boyfriend in 2008 (www.kaitysway.org). (To read Ann's speech, go to www.labmf.org/fund/events for the link.) Other speakers included Susan Carbon, Director of the Office of Violence Against Women, US Dept of Justice; Amy Terpeluk of Ruder Finn & Liz Claiborne Inc; Kristen Schubert of RWJF; and Rose Kirk, President of the Verizon Foundation. This is the third year that Ann has spoken at the conference, finding it both professionally and personally rewarding. Largely due to NFWL, 22 states have some form of dating violence education legislation, and 7 of those have very strong laws.....and,, RI is leading the way with the comprehensive Lindsay Ann Burke Act!!



Ann Burke, Robin Read and Bobbi Sudberry

WINNERS OF 2011 RI TEEN DATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS POSTER CONTEST



First Place:
Elizabeth Barstow
Warwick Career &
Technical Center

Our annual poster contest for RI high school students, meant to bring awareness to dating violence during National Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month in February, will expand for 2012. LABMF will sponsor two separate contests, one for RI high school students and one for RI middle school students. In addition we are pleased to announce that prize money will be increased for the 2012 contest. We strongly encourage RI teachers to encourage their students to enter the contest as it is a great way to raise awareness for dating violence in schools. For more information, and for rules of contest, go to www.labmf.org.

TDV Training DVD: Leading the Way in Teacher Training



Our training DVD affords schools the flexibility to train staff at their own convenience. For information on the specific contents of the DVD and for our sales flyer, go to www.labmf.org. At the present time the DVD may be purchased by non-profits **only**.

October 6, 2011

Fourth Annual Imagine Dinner/Dance Fundraiser Atlantic Beach Club in Middletown, RI.

Join us for an evening of good food, dancing, and an AWESOME RAFFLE you won't want to miss! Help support the work of LABMF through the purchase of tickets, a table, or by donating a raffle prize/basket. For tickets email: labmf@cox.net.

US Senate Judiciary Subcommittee Holds Hearing on Dating Violence

In June, US Senator Whitehouse, Chairman of the US Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime & Terrorism held a field hearing at RI's Tolman High School. Ann Burke, President of LABMF, testified as to the importance of prevention of dating violence through education. Deb Debare of the RI Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Kate Reilly of Sojourner House (Start Strong RI), and Ruth Zakarin of the Katie Brown Educational Program also testified. All testimony is part of the official Congressional Record and can be found online at www.judiciary.senate.gov (search under Hearings). Thank you to Senator Whitehouse for being a champion of dating violence prevention through education.



NOTABLE MOMENTS



- On August 25, Ann trained Rhode Island College Resident Assistants on the topic of dating violence and distributed copies of the college edition of the Love Is Not Abuse curriculum for RA's to use when training fellow RIC students. This workshop is always rewarding for Ann on a professional and personal level as she and Lindsay are graduates of RIC, and the RIC RA's are the best!!
- Ann and Chris Burke will attend a September 13th Reception at Vice-President Joe Biden's Washington, DC residence, honoring the 17th Anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act. It will be very bittersweet for them, as that is the day Lindsay was murdered 6 years ago.

LABMF Recognizes Curtis Corner Middle School

Helen Racine, CCMS Reading Teacher, and her students held a fashion show in April. Students organized the show and modeled fashions from local stores. Parents and CCMS staff supported this event which raised \$550. for LABMF. LABMF has no paid staff and all funds support our workshops and projects which directly benefit RI schools. Thank you to Helen Racine and the students and staff of CCMS for your continued support for LABMF and the prevention of dating violence through education!

Parents....take notice!!

Liz Claiborne's Love Is Not Abuse new phone app for parents is a must to download to your iPhone. It is full of important info and resources on dating violence, and it has a realistic feature that gives you rare insight into what it feels like to be a victim of dating violence.

To download this free app, go to the iTunes store and search for LINA, Love Is Not Abuse.



LABMF will present an all-day workshop for teachers on September 30th. Space is very limited. Email labmf@cox.net for info.

PREVENTION WORKS! NOTABLE QUOTES

RI health teacher shares student response to dating violence education in their classroom:

"Last year in health class we learned about healthy relationships....I listened....I'm glad I did because over the summer I realized that my boyfriend was starting to become abusive. He would call me 30 times a day, leaving me voicemails of him screaming at the top of his lungs. One day I couldn't hang out and he punched a wall, and threatened to do the same to me. If I hadn't taken your health class, I would definitely still be with him. So thank you for teaching us about relationships. It really does matter. People don't think it happens in our school, it does."

Email sent to Ann Burke:

"Mrs. Burke, on behalf of the West Warwick Public School Dept, as well as personally, I want to thank you and commend you for your continued work in the battle against teen dating violence. Unfortunately, we find ourselves talking to our students much more than we would like to. However, the work you have done and the resources you provide have been powerful in sending the message to our students about what teen dating violence is, that it is not okay, and how to get help. We have many success stories of students getting out of destructive relationships and I can honestly say your work played an integral part. Thank you again, Karen Tarasevich, Principal West Warwick High School."