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A Program of SafePlace

Spring 2011

Greetings!

Welcome to the first edition of the 2011 Expect Respect e-Newsletter! 2010 was a very exciting year. We are so proud of the many young people who organized events, performed original theatre, Hip Hop and poetry, created art, participated in support groups and helped promote respectful relationships in numerous and creative ways. We are grateful to our community partners who embraced the topic of healthy relationships and brought it alive in classrooms, healthcare settings and afterschool programs. Some of the most rewarding work last year involved engaging parents in supporting their children's transition to middle school. In 2011 we will continue to call upon young people and adults to strengthen relationships in our community. We are committed to being a leader in the growing movement to prevent sexual and domestic violence. Please join us by staying involved, coming to events and promoting healthy relationships for young people in your life.

Thanks,

Barri Rosenbluth
Expect Respect Program Director



Riot the Silence 2 End Dating Violence

National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month is quickly approaching. We are gearing up for our

In This Issue

- Riot the Silence
- Parent Campaign
- Social Media
- Changing Lives
- Youth Leadership Groups
- PALS
- School Support Groups



RIOT THE SILENCE 2 END DATING VIOLENCE

FEB 7TH 2011 THE MARCHESA HALL & THEATRE 6-8 PM
LINCOLN VILLAGE ACROSS FROM HIGHLAND MALL 6406 N. IH-35 SUITE 300 AUSTIN, TX 78752

NATIONAL TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH

FREE! MUSIC SPOKEN WORD & MUCH MORE!

second annual "Riot the Silence 2 End Dating Violence" Kick-off Event on Monday, February 7th from 6-8 pm at the [Marchesa Event Center](#) near Highland Mall.

Please save the date, bring students and join us! Music, Theatre, Hip-Hop, Dance, and Poetry-- all to provide awareness of Teen Dating Violence and support healthy relationships. We hope to see you there. Please R.S.V.P. on [facebook](#). Want to see last years' highlights? Check out a [video trailer](#).



Expect Respect Director Honored

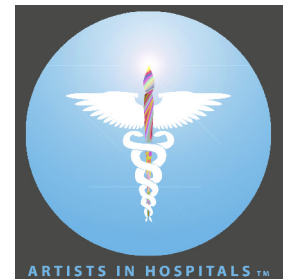
Barri Rosenbluth was awarded the Professional Innovation in Victim Services from the U.S. Department of Justice on behalf of SafePlace's Expect Respect Program. See [more!](#)

Quick Links

- [SafePlace](#)
- [Expect Respect](#)
- [Start Strong Austin](#)
- [Start Strong Initiative](#)
- [Changing Lives Blog](#)



Partners



Parents: Start Relating Before They Start Dating

Parents play a critical role in teaching their teens what a healthy relationship feels like, looks like and sounds like.

We are partnering with the [Austin ISD's Parent Support Office](#) and [The Austin Project](#) to provide workshops for parents in middle schools. Parents will learn how to start the conversation about healthy relationships and support their teens as they navigate peer and dating relationships.

Learn [tools and conversation starters](#) for parents.

For more information about parent workshops contact [Barbara Ball](#).

Expect Respect Takes on Social Media

We have hit the Social Media scene with our creation of a new [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter account](#). We look forward to connecting with you on Facebook and Twitter, so we can share even more about what Expect Respect is up to! See photos, watch video and find ways you can connect to our online community!

Our new [blog](#) is also up and running. We are actively recruiting teen bloggers to join us in spreading the word about healthy relationships. Teen bloggers can

earn service learning or community service credit by writing blogs or becoming a Social Media Ambassador. Have interested students? Want to help spread the word, or write a blog yourself? Email [Susie Gidseg](mailto:Susie.Gidseg) for more information.



Changing Lives Youth Theatre Ensemble (CLYTE)

When Claire, a new student, becomes the target of a cyber bullying campaign, she realizes she does not know where to turn. Observe the story from both sides in our new performance. How can Claire find a way to fight back against cyber bullying? How can bystanders, both in school and online, take action?

What can our teachers and families do to support their kids and students? What pushes someone to become "the bully?" CLYTE presents Reach Out/Speak Up.



This January we begin a 19- stop tour to schools and conferences in Austin and the surrounding areas. For more information on CLYTE email [Susie Gidseg](mailto:Susie.Gidseg), Managing Director, or call 512-356-1695. Check out the [Changing Lives Blog!](#) Check out our tour schedule to find out when we are coming to a location near you!

Youth Leadership



We are collaborating with Communities in Schools (CIS), Council for At-Risk Youth (CARY) at Lamar Middle School to create "We are Lamar: A Mask Making Exhibit" as a way to show the diversity at Lamar. Youth leaders will participate by helping Lamar staff, students and parents with their masks.

In May, they plan to have an exhibit displaying all the masks with information about the artists.

PAL (Peer Assistance and Leadership) Groups

The high school PALs groups are working with us to create public service announcements for AISD as part of their anti-bullying campaigns. These PSA's highlight the district policy and complaint forms that are available at all schools to report incidents of bullying, sexual harassment, cyberbullying and dating violence. We provided training to each of the PAL groups to assist them in developing their campaigns.

For more information on Expect Respect teen leadership programs contact [Randy Randolph](mailto:Randy.Randolph). See examples of [youth-led projects](#).

Expect Respect Support Groups

Approximately 283 students are attending support groups at 24 middle schools and high schools across AISD. Here is an example of what students are learning:

"Selena" was referred to Expect Respect because her teacher was concerned about Selena's unhealthy relationship with her boyfriend. At first, Selena expressed reservations about being in a group because, in her experience, girls could not be trusted as confidants. As she continued attending sessions, she warmed up to the other members and began sharing her confusion about her boyfriend's expectations of what clothes she could wear and with whom she could spend her free time. The other girls related to Selena's experiences and shared their own stories. Support groups help them to recognize the abuse is not their fault and they can choose partners who respect their decisions. They will continue to practice assertive communication, self-respect, and limit-setting skills. To make a referral, please contact Agnes Aoki, Counseling Manager. Referrals can be made year round.

|  Expect Respect Program Participating Schools 2010-2011 | | | | | |
|--|----------------|--------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| School | Support Groups | | Leadership Groups | Safe Dates (in school curriculum) | Date SMART (after school curriculum) |
| Middle Schools | Boys' Group | Girls' Group | | | |
| Bedicheck | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Bailey | ✓ | | | | |
| Burnet | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Covington | ✓ | | | | |
| Dobie | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Fulmore | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Gus Garcia | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Kealing | ✓ | | | | |
| Lamar | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Martin | ✓ | | | | |
| Mendez | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| O'Henry | ✓ | | | | |
| Paredes | ✓ | | | | |
| Webb | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| High Schools | | | | | |
| Akins | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Anderson | ✓ | | | | |
| Austin | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Crockett | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Eastside | ✓ | | | | |
| Lanier | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| LBJ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| McCallum | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| Reagan | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Travis | ✓ | | | | |
| ALC | Counseling | | | | |
| ACES | Counseling | | | | |
| For information and referrals: Agnes Aoki aaoki@SafePlace.org 512.356.1621  | | | | | |

Safe and supportive relationships are key to good health and overall quality of life. Let's work together to give young people the tools they need to succeed in all of their relationships.

Thanks for reading,

Expect Respect Team, SafePlace

**24-hour Hotline 512.267.7233 (SAFE)
927.9616 for the Deaf community**

www.SafePlace.org



SafePlace exists to end sexual and domestic violence through safety, healing, prevention and social change.

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