

2015-2016 ACA SPONSORED INITIATIVE: ANTI-BULLYING AND INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE TASK FORCE

As part of ACA President Thelma Duffey's vision of a safe and nurturing environment for all of our clients and communities, we are asking all divisions, states, branches, and regions to participate in this year's initiative through 4 main venues:

The Counselor's Tool Box:

We are asking that by December 1, 2015, all divisions, state, and branches will have developed a Counselor's Tool Box for the Anti-Bullying and Interpersonal Violence Prevention that is pertinent to their membership. The Toolbox should ideally contain the following folders:

Articles: Links to Journal articles that contain theoretical or practical information for how to prevent and intervene with the populations of interest to that division's membership.

Reference list: A list of books, articles, videos or other media that may be helpful to your membership in developing prevention, intervention and advocacy skills to reduce bullying and violence in their communities and for their clients.

PDF Resources: Informative resources that can be given to clients, stakeholders and community members about bullying and violence prevention. Some examples might include downloadable/printable handouts, tri-folds, flyers, newsletters, or power points.

Websites: Develop a list and include links to websites that are relevant to bullying and violence prevention for the membership of your organization. Examples may include videos, testimonials, and helpful resources. Please be sure to vet all website links.

Referrals, Networks, Where to get help: Organize resources including links, directories, and network information for addressing the bullying and violence prevention needs of clients and communities relevant to your division, branch, region, or state chapter.

Facilitated Discussions at ACA:

We will be hosting cross-division forum to discuss why we are seeing increases in bullying and violence and the role of social media, authority/power, and other social structures

Special Issues of Division Journals:

Please let us know if you would be interested in having a special issue of your state/region/division journal highlighting Bullying and Violence Prevention so that we can help advertise for you!

Articles in Counseling Today:

Do you have someone in your division who can speak to the problems of bullying and violence for your membership's clients and communities? If so, please let us know. We are looking for people who may be able to write articles for or be interviewed for Counseling Today.

Let Us Support You!

The President's initiative for Bullying and Violence Prevention is supported by a committee of dedicated professionals who can assist your division in these projects. We will be reaching out to you to support you in the development of the Tool Box and each of these projects.

DID YOU KNOW?

BULLYING STATISTICS

- **Every 7 MINUTES** a child is bullied. Adult intervention – 4%. Peer intervention – 11%. No intervention – 85%.
- **Biracial and multiracial youth** are more likely to be victimized than youth who identify with a single race
- Bullied students tend to grow up more **socially anxious**, with **less self-esteem** and require **more mental health services throughout life**
- Kids who are **obese, LGBT, or have disabilities** are up to **63% more likely** to be bullied than other children.
- Of the reported 3,407 single-bias hate crime offenses that were racially motivated, 66.4 were motivated by anti-black or African-American bias, and 21.4 percent stemmed from anti-white bias.
- **1 MILLION** children were **harassed, threatened or subjected to other forms of cyberbullying on FACEBOOK** during the past year.
- It is estimated that **160,000 children miss school every day** due to fear of attack or intimidation by other students. Source: National Education Association.
- Adults with disabilities were found to be 1.5 times more likely to be a victim of violence than those without a disability
- In a 2007 study, **86% of LGBT** students said that they had **experienced harassment** at school during the previous year (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network — GLSEN)

