

The Derry Bully Prevention Project and The Upper Room Host Anti-bullying Workshop

Dr. Malcolm Smith, a nationally recognized expert on the subject of bullying, will address teachers, parents, and community members

Derry, NH October 5, 2014 – The Derry Bully Prevention Project (DBPP), with the support of The Upper Room, a Family Resource Center, will be hosting *Teaching Civility – A Social Cue for Bullying* on November 18th. *Teaching Civility* will feature Dr. Malcolm Smith, a national leading expert on bullying, who helped author the 2010 anti-bullying law signed by then New Hampshire Governor John Lynch. Dr. Smith will discuss the law as it applies to both bullying victims and perpetrators. He will address what he calls today's serious "civility deficit" and its resulting "meanness epidemic."

"The reality is that bullying has devastating effects such as school avoidance, loss of self-esteem, increased anxiety, and depression," says Brenda Caldwell, Director of the DBPP. "The statistics, even locally, are staggering. Of the 3,134 bullying incidents reported at NH's elementary, middle and high schools for the 2012-2013 school year, 1,584 were investigated and determined to be actual instances of bullying. Serious underlying emotional trouble often follows bullies into adulthood negating the idea that bullying is no more than a childhood rite of passage that makes kids tougher."

This free workshop will be open to the entire community. It will be held on November 18, 2014 from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Upper Room, a Family Resource Center, 36 Tsienneto Road, Derry, NH 03038. Space is limited and will require a reservation by calling 603-437-8477 ext. 18.

Because October is National Bullying Prevention Month, Dr. Smith will have already met with sixth and seventh graders in Derry's middle schools to discuss student concerns on the topic, and educational packets will have been distributed to local youth organizations, coaches, and parents.

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About The Derry Bully Prevention Project

The Derry Bully Prevention Project was formed in 2013 to educate and increase awareness of the impact bullying has on the victims and the perpetrators in the community of Derry, NH. Thanks to a grant from the Alexander Eastman Foundation, the project was formed in partnership with The Upper Room, a Family Resource Center. For more information about The Derry Bully Prevention Project and their activities, you may visit their facebook page or e-mail them at TheDerryBullyProject@gmail.com.

About The Upper Room

Founded in 1986, The Upper Room, A Family Resource Center is a non-profit 501(C) 3 organization committed to creating educational programs and services, which strengthen individuals, families and the community. Our center is a warm, welcoming place where families receive information and support not only in times of crisis but on a day-to-day basis. There are no barriers, income guidelines or geographic limitations to participation. Our doors are open to all who come to them. For more information, call (603) 437-8477, or visit our website at www.URteachers.org. The Upper Room is hosting its 13th Annual Family Matters Auction on November 7, 2014. To learn more, visit www.urteachers.org/involved-auction.html.