

PROJECT ALLIANCE COMES TO YOU!

These two-hour in-service trainings are offered on-site to member school districts at no charge! Districts may host up to five training sessions each academic year and earn professional development points (PDP's) if certain qualifications are met. You can get started by calling us at 617-679-6550, or you may download the in-service request form online at www.projectalliance.org.

We'll be glad to tailor a presentation to better meet your needs. For scheduling purposes, we request that you give us at least two months' notice. Registration of at least 25 participants is required for each in-service. These in-service trainings are recommended for all grade levels, unless otherwise specified.

Reaching Out to Students with Disabilities

NEW!

Students with mental, emotional, or physical disabilities face significant risks to their health and safety. They are four times more likely to abuse substances and twice as likely to be targets of bullying, intolerance, and abuse.

Educators and other adults can learn the warning signs that a student with a disability is in danger of harm, by self or others. This training offers a blueprint for early identification and response. The program is conducted by the Middlesex District Attorney's Office in collaboration with the Disabled Persons Protection Commission.

Alcohol and Other Drugs

The leading causes of death among 16- to 24-year-olds are alcohol and other drugs. Parents, educators, and community leaders need to have up-to-date information on trends in student use of alcohol as well as the newest designer, over the counter, and "club" drugs. This training highlights the prevalence of substance use, the dangerous connection between substance use, sexual assault, and other forms of violence, and the applicability of criminal law, school policy, and proven prevention strategies to address risky behavior.

Internet Safety

Between email, instant messaging, and chat rooms, how can educators and parents teach children to stay safe online? This training is designed to build awareness about the opportunities and dangers that are unique to the Internet. Participants will learn about the crimes that are most frequently perpetrated against juveniles, criminal law and how it can protect us, and how to involve parents in safeguarding their children.

Suicide Prevention

NEW!

Suicide is the third leading cause of death for young people ages 15-24. This training will focus on the warning signs and symptoms of suicide, as well as of depression and other forms of self-injury in young people. It will offer concrete action steps and communication strategies for adults who are concerned about a student's potential for self-harm. Educators will learn how to teach students that depression is treatable and to combat the stigma society attaches to mental illness.

Project

Eliminating Intolerance

Bullying, harassment, racism, and acts of violence often stem from one core element: intolerance. This training—formerly called 'Bullying Prevention' but incorporating some new content—will equip you with practical tools and effective strategies to foster a climate of respect and safety within your school or commu-

**"I'm a better role model
because of this training.
It went beyond setting
ground rules for safety
in the classroom to
fostering a respectful
climate school-wide."**

'Bullying Prevention' participant

nity. Learn how to dispel prevalent myths about bullying, review recent research on violence prevention 'best practices,' and elicit buy-in from both students and parents. Participants will have to opportunity to role-play the most effective things to say and do during an incident involving intolerance.

Family/Relationship Violence

Learn how to become a partner in your school community to stop the destructive cycle of domestic violence. Living with violence, either at home or in a personal relationship, interferes with a

Alliance in-service trainings

Project Alliance is an activity of Middlesex Partnerships for Youth. MPY collaborates with leaders in public and private education, government, and public safety to create programs that serve the best interests of youth.

student's ability to learn, as well as causing serious behavioral and social problems. Longer-term, it increases the risk of becoming either a victim or a perpetrator. This workshop will help participants understand where domestic and dating violence comes from, how it happens, what the crimes are, and the necessity of safety planning. It will also focus on how to provide support for the victim and referrals for the batterer.

51A Mandated Reporting

What legal responsibilities do educators have as mandated reporters of child abuse and neglect? The Child Abuse Division of the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, the Department of Social Services, and MPY team up to provide essential information. The various topics include recognizing the indicators of abuse and neglect, the Mandated Reporter statute and reporting process, and the roles of the school-based Child Protection Team, the Department of Social Services, and the District Attorney's Office.

Superintendents and principals at all levels are strongly encouraged to attend.

Search and Seizure

For schools to stay safe, they must be free from weapons as well as alcohol and other drugs. When do school officials need to justify a search? This training gives examples of the types of searches that may be necessary in schools and discusses distinctions between the role of school personnel versus that of the police. The goal of the training is to promote school safety, reduce liability, and ensure that searches can be upheld in court while simultaneously maintaining the individual's right to privacy.

 **NEW!**

School and Community Emergency Preparedness

This is an opportunity for school safety and emergency response teams to work together through table-top exercises that were developed by experts at the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. Participants will be able to keep current on the issue of school safety, talk with each other as well as with experts in campus safety, and identify next steps to improve their district's emergency plan. This workshop supports the Middlesex District Attorney Office's SECURE program (Safe and Effective Community Understanding for Response to Emergencies).

Recommended for school safety preparedness teams (including community public safety officials).

Citizenship in Action

CIA is a dynamic middle school curriculum that focuses on six core principles: justice, equality, free speech, rights and responsibilities, democracy, and citizenship. Working through social action projects, historical analyses, debates, and interviews, it can be easily adapted for elementary and high schools. The workshop will help educators to teach how understanding the consequences of their actions can help young people become wiser decision makers. Without these critical life skills, they are significantly more likely to become involved with substance abuse, criminal activity, truancy, and many other forms of high-risk behavior.

"I thought my school was too small—120 at-risk students—for this information to be relevant. But it turned out to be exactly what we needed to develop a safety/crisis plan."

'Emergency Preparedness' participant

YOU WILL NOTICE several changes in our roster of in-service offerings this fall. We have responded to your feedback regarding professional development needs by creating some new trainings and revising others. We are especially grateful to the experts in their respective fields, who have partnered with us to provide the most up-to-date information on school safety. We value your ongoing comments. Please let us know what subjects you want to see in the future.