



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**MIDDLESEX DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND MIDDLESEX  
PARTNERSHIPS FOR YOUTH, INC. ANNOUNCE TRAINING  
ON AGGRESSIVE ADOLESCENT BEHAVIOR**

**WESTON** – The Middlesex District Attorney's Office and Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. hosted a training session today, October 20, 2005, entitled, "Angry and Oppositional Adolescents: Creative Treatment Approaches" as part of their "Fall 2005 Contemporary Mental Health" series.

"The vast majority of adults in prisons today exhibited this aggressive and oppositional behavior as children and adolescents, and the underlying problems that manifested themselves as this behavior were not addressed and treated appropriately," said District Attorney Martha Coakley. "It is vitally important for educators who deal with students first-hand to understand these behaviors and be trained in best practices for dealing with them, to ensure that the behaviors don't reoccur."

This workshop focused on the clinical and behavioral implications of adolescent anger and oppositional behavior. During various workshops throughout the day, attendees were introduced to techniques for working with aggressive youth in individual, group, and classroom settings. Additionally, attendees were introduced to a wide variety of new and old educational tools and communication strategies to connect with hard-to-reach adolescents. Daniel B. Jacobs, Psy.D., M.B.A., presented this full-day training.

Daniel B. Jacobs, Psy.D., M.B.A., is the Director of Sub Acute Services at The North Shore Medical Center -- Salem Hospital in Salem, MA. He oversees the partial hospital programs for adolescents and adults with substance abuse and mental health concerns and also has a private practice where he specializes in working with adolescents with substance abuse and emotional concerns. Dr. Jacobs has worked with children and adolescents in a variety of settings (e.g. schools, camps, clinics), employing creative and therapeutic teaching techniques and has also worked as a consultant in new games and adventure-programming.

This session was the opening of a three-part educational program for school staff throughout Middlesex on ensuring the safety and well-being of students, called the "Fall 2005

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Contemporary Mental Health Series.” Part two of this series will be held on November 8, 2005, and will deal with “Lying/Stealing, Temper Tantrums & School Refusal: Intervention Strategies.” Part three of this series will be held on December 13, 2005, and will deal with “Skills and Techniques for Bullying Prevention.”

Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. (MPY) is a non-profit organization established in 1988 by the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office and ten school districts to foster communication on school-related legal issues relating to substance abuse and violence. Through Project Alliance, MPY’s primary initiative, the non-profit provides prevention and intervention resources, as well as training and programming to Middlesex school districts and communities using a combination of educational outreach, technical support, and community-based strategy development to address a variety of youth health and safety issues. MPY now includes over 60 member school districts. For more information on Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. and Project Alliance, please visit [www.projectalliance.org](http://www.projectalliance.org).

This training session was held in Alumnae Hall at Regis College in Weston, today from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Approximately 90 school staff members attended, including principals, guidance counselors, health education coordinators, and teachers from the following communities:

- Acton
- Arlington
- Ashland
- Bedford
- Belmont
- Billerica
- Burlington
- Cambridge
- Chelmsford
- Dracut
- Framingham
- Lexington
- Lowell
- Malden
- Marlborough
- Natick
- Newton
- North Reading
- Somerville
- Stoneham
- Tewksbury
- Wakefield
- Watertown
- Westford
- Weston
- Wilmington
- Winchester
- Woburn

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