

P.O. Box 438305, Chicago, IL, 60643 (800) 491-8182 bullyingprevention365.org

September 26, 2018

Dear Vice President Palomar:

Due to increased violence in the community, I am sending you the enclosed news release and PSA about the upcoming 2018 Anti-Bullying Conference at Chicago State University to address bullying and victimization among the youth.

I would appreciate if you publish the release in your esteemed medium to disseminate information to the community about the conference.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dorothy Thompson

Conference Director

NEWS RELEASE                                       MEDIA CONTACT:

September 26, 2018                                                        Min. Nicholas Thompson

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MAJOR ANTI-BULLYING CONFERENCE & YOUTH PEACE RALLY PLANNED AT CSU NOV. 2

In a major move to combat bullying and violence, a one-day Anti-Bullying Conference and Youth Peace rally will be held at Chicago State University (CSU) on November 2nd, 2018.

Sponsored by CSU's Phi Delta Kappa Chapter and the Bullying Prevention and Awareness Inc., the event will be attended by educators, professionals, social workers, authors, parents, students and youth development leaders. Several well-known experts on the subject of bullying and violence will lead workshops and address the rally. The theme of the event is "Youth Empowerment: Securing A Bright and Safe Future."

"We will be hearing from experts and also from youths who are the real victims of bullying in schools so as to equip them with the tools to deal with the problem" said Dr. Dorothy Thompson, the anti-bullying group's executive director.

"We will be building on our experience with working with adults last year by including the youths, because bullying is not only increasing but tending to be violent among them.”

According to federal statistics, “1 out of 5 students admits to being a bully or doing some bullying. Illinois is among the 10 states with worst record of bullying.”

Dr. Maudestine McLeary, CSU's Phi Delta Kappa president, also deplored the increasing wave of bullying. "Many of our young people are affected by the incidence of bullying," she said.

 McLeary indicated that her organization fully supports the conference and youth rally at CSU. "We look forward to this event and hope all our members and the community would participate."

CSU's event will be the second annual conference organized by the anti-bullying group. Its first conference was held at the National Louis University last year and attracted approximately 150 adult participants and presenters from Indiana, Wisconsin, Oklahoma and Georgia

This year, the African American Family Research Institute (AAFRI) is partnering with the event organizers to expand its scope.

"My organization has decided to participate in this important movement to help equip both youths and adults with resources to help address the bullying problem," said Dr. Terry Solomon, AAFRI's executive director.

She said her organization expects to provide experts for the conference workshops. In addition, she will help mobilize social workers to attend the conference for professional credit. Teachers and administrators also get professional development credit for participating.

Adra Young, author of the book, "Misfits", is spearheading the efforts for the Youth Day activities. She said workshops, poetry and art competitions with prizes will precede the youth peace rally. Participating youth and students will be required to preregister for the event and be accompanied by adults from their schools or groups.

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A spiritual component of bullying and violence is also being explored to help youth cope with the problem from that perspective. Entertainment at the event will be provided by Global Girls, a Chicago-based group that preformed at last year's event. Vendors including agencies dealing with bullying, violence and mental health will also be present at the event.

Persons interested in volunteering to register participants and monitor the activities are welcomed to apply. For further information call (800) 491-8182 or visit [www.bullyingprevention365.org](http://www.bullyingprevention365.org/).

**TV COMMUNITY CALENDAR                            Sept. 24th, 2018**

**Chicago 2018 Anti-Bullying Conference and Youth Peace Rally**

**Chicago State University, Friday, November 2nd from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**Professional development credit available for participants.**

**To register, call (800)491-8182 or visit www.bullyingprevention365.**

**NOT                                        END                                                     NOT**