

MEDINA COUNTY JUVENILE AND PROBATE COURT NEWSLETTER

JUDGE KEVIN W. DUNN OCTOBER 2015

LIVE BROADCAST OF REQUIRED GUARDIANSHIP FUNDAMENTALS TRAINING PROVIDED AT MCJDC

Approximately 60 guardians, both layperson and professionals, were able to complete the six-hour guardianship fundamentals training course now required under the Supreme Court Rule of Superintendence 66.

Laypeople attended a live feed of the training at the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center from Columbus on October 29 while professionals attended the October 30 session provided by both the Medina County Probate Court and the Medina County Bar Association.

During the training, guardians, who are the legal decision makers on behalf of another who cannot make decisions for themselves, learned about the process of filing and carrying out a guardianship, as well as the new amendments to Superintendence Rule 66.

In addition to training and continued education



Professionals at the required six-hour fundamentals training for guardianship at the Medina County JDC October 30, 2015.

requirements, guardians must also complete a background check prior to their appointment, although attorneys may be able to provide a certificate of good standing from the Supreme Court in lieu of a background check. Additional requirements also dictate that guardians must have all of their ward's legal papers, such as estate planning documents and powers of attorney, filed within three months of their appointment.

There is also an increase in annual reporting frequency and the establishment of a formal complaint process.

To view all of the amendments to Superintendence Rule 66, visit www.SupremeCourt.Ohio.gov.

Another live broadcast of the fundamentals training will be provided at the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center on December 17 and 18, 2015. Guardians may register to attend the event at www.MedinaProbate.org.

JUVENILE COURT OFFERS NEW Ti-180 PROGRAM

The Medina County Juvenile Court began a new diversion program for eligible juvenile offenders this month. Teen Intervention—180 (Ti-180) is a program for first time offenders who receive an alcohol or other drug related charge.

During the three and a half hour course facilitated by a licensed clinician from Solutions Behavioral Healthcare, Inc., the youth and at least one parent or guardian will be provided education on early intervention for substance abuse, as well as learn about the warning signs of drug and alcohol abuse.

Immediately after the magistrate orders a youth into the program, the juvenile will complete a simple mental health and substance abuse questionnaire and submit a toxicology screen to determine if additional services are needed beyond the Ti-180 course.

"The Ti-180 program allows us to use best practice techniques to determine the most beneficial services for the juvenile,"

said Grants and Programming Coordinator Tony Miller. "If a youth is high risk for future drug or alcohol abuse, they will still complete the program because the education will not hurt. It just means that their needs are greater than what Ti-180 can offer alone, and we will be able to realize that during the screening process."

At the end of the three and half hour course, the licensed clinician will meet with the families to discuss whether or not additional services and treatment are necessary. The juvenile will also have to submit a second toxicology screen.

In order for the magistrate to consider a charge eligible for expungement, the juvenile must have negative toxicology screens, low risk of future substance abuse and minimal mental health concerns. If it has been determined that

additional services are not necessary, the initial charge may be dismissed and eligible for expungement.

However, if it is determined that future treatment is necessary or if the youth produces a positive drug screen, the youth will be directed toward the programming track in Juvenile Court, with the option to enter the Juvenile Drug Court program if eligible, or return to Court for continued disposition.

"Ti-180 will help us ensure that we at the Court are providing the best services and treatment we can to help youth get on the right track and refrain from drug or alcohol abuse," Miller said.

Ti-180 will carry a \$100 cost and take place at the Medina County Juvenile Detention Center on the first Saturday of every other month.

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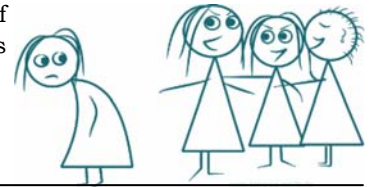
NEWSLETTER

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NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

PACER (Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights) created the national anti-bullying campaign in 2006 as an effort to encourage everyone to take an active role in bullying prevention. That movement, which originally began as a one-week event, is now recognized throughout the month of October.

People may think of bullying in a stereotypical way, imagining a situation of a physically intimidating boy picking on a smaller classmate, however, bullying behavior is much more complex. Below are examples of the types of bullying that can cause significant emotional damage, as well as tips for parents and families to help deal with bullying and their children.



There Are Many Forms of Bullying...

▶ emotional

- Exclusion
- Social Manipulation
- Controlling who someone can or can not be friends with
- Humiliation

▶ physical

- Hitting, Kicking, Pushing
- Taking or Damaging Property
- Forced or Unwelcomed Contact

▶ sexual

- Sexually Charged Comments
- Inappropriate Physical Contact
- Targeted Sexual Jokes

▶ verbal

- Teasing or Name Calling
- Making Threats
- Intimidation
- Demeaning Jokes
- Spreading Rumors, Gossiping and Slandering (spreading false, negative information)

▶ cyber

- Sending harassing, embarrassing, or unwelcome emails or text messages
- Threats and Hate Speech
- Sexual harassment
- Ridiculing someone publically in online forums
- Posting lies, rumor or gossip about the target and encouraging other to distribute that information

...That Create Harmful Effects

Below are examples of behaviors someone may exhibit as a result of being bullied:

- School avoidance
- Decrease in Grades
- Inability to Concentrate
- Headaches and Stomachaches
- Sleeping Problems
- Low Self-Esteem
- Increased Fear or Anxiety
- Depression
- Self-Isolation
- Increased Aggression
- Self-Harm and Suicidal Ideation
- Fear of Other Students
- Retaliation

BE MORE THAN A BYSTANDER

If you notice a classmate being bullied, there are things you can do to help.

Be their friend

You can help simply by being nice and letting them know they are not alone.

Help them get away

Create a distraction or help guide the person being bullied to a different location.

Tell a trusted adult

If you don't feel safe confronting the situation, an adult can intervene and keep the bullying from progressing.

Don't provide an audience

Oftentimes, bullies are encouraged by their audience. Act disinterested or blatantly state that you don't think their behavior is funny.

Set a good example

Don't encourage bullying behavior. Make an effort to promote anti-bullying awareness, such as creating posters that promote respect for all.

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP AT HOME

Talk

Create a safe and supportive environment. Let your child know this is not their fault and that they are not alone. Bullying is never okay and every one deserves to be treated with respect and the right to feel safe at school.

Empower

Help them create an action plan. Simply telling your child to stand up to the bully may imply that they are solely responsible to fix the problem. Brainstorm options together and involve them in the process to determine the next step.

Seek Assistance

Decide if anyone else should be involved. Does your child need assistance from a guidance counselor or health professional? If things continue to progress, decide if it's appropriate to include school administrators or law enforcement.