

Community Event—Sample “Run of Show”

As part of PACER Center’s National Bullying Prevention Awareness Month in October, children, teens, adults, schools, and communities across the country are encouraged to hold a special event to show they care about this important issue. The event can include music, give-aways, special speakers, petition signing, and more as people unite to join the movement against bullying.

Events do not have to be long to have an impact. The following draft agenda can be modified to fit your needs. Design a “show” that is supported by concurrent activities. Incorporate one or all of the suggestions or do something unique that will inspire your audience.

PRE-EVENT (about 15 minutes)

- Recruit students to play background music or have singers create their own song to fit the event.
- Show videos from TeensAgainstBullying.org > RESPOND>ACTING UP on a large screen.

MAIN EVENT (about 30 minutes)

Opening Comments: Invite everyone to join the movement. Ask a student, parent, or educator who is passionate about bullying prevention to speak.

Song: Select a student to create his or her own song or have someone sing a song such as “Stand Tall” from TeensAgainstBullying.org > RESPOND > STAND TALL.

Inspirational Comments: Ask students to read bullying prevention comments from “I Care Because . . .” or to create and read their own statements.

Motivational Speakers: Recruit a teen whose actions have made a difference for other students or a parent whose child has been affected directly by bullying.

Student Speakers: Invite several teens to state what they will do to prevent or respond to bullying.

Closing Comments: Invite someone from the community—a police officer, the mayor, or a local celebrity—to encourage everyone to stand against bullying.

ACTIVITIES DURING EVENT

Set up your event with a welcome table and a few other tables for activities and information.

Welcome Table: Create a table at the entrance of your event where attendees can receive information about the activities you have planned. Explain that there will be a main event. Let them know they are showing their support for bullying prevention and awareness just by being there and they are welcome to participate in any of the opportunities at the tables.

Poster Contest: Activity for students in grades K-6. Download the attached form. Students can create a poem, picture, story, etc. using markers, crayons, and pencils. Completed entries can be posted at the end of the event. Have ribbons, trophies, or some type of prize available for all entries.

Hints for this Activity:

1. Help students decide on a topic (i.e., how bullying makes you feel, what you think bullying is, or what you think can be done about it).
2. Will you use crayons, markers, pencils, or a combination?
3. Will it be a picture, a picture with words, a poem, or a story?

Bookmarks: PACER offers free bookmarks for schools and organizations. They come in packages of 100. There are two versions: one for elementary school students (Kids Against Bullying) and middle- and high-school students (Teens Against Bullying).

Petition Signing: Attendees can sign “Kids Against Bullying” pledge or the “The End of Bullying Begins with Me” petition.