

Dear Friend,

The LET'S PREVENT ABUSE Puppet Program, a project of PACER Center, Inc., originated in 1984 in response to a growing awareness of the greater vulnerability of children with disabilities to all types of abuse. The program, which features child-sized puppets with and without disabilities, sensitively addresses child abuse issues in a thoughtful, interactive, non-threatening manner.

Our program is designed for elementary classes, grades 1 – 4 and a designated mandated reporter must be present for the entire program.

The scripts address:

- a. The definitions of physical and sexual abuse;
- b. The need for children to talk about the abuse if they are maltreated;
- c. How to get help and whom to tell;
- d. Feelings of guilt, isolation and shame associated with abuse; and
- e. Abuse is never a child's fault

The program is about 35 minutes in length and up to three presentations may be scheduled in a single day. The optimum audience size for children in grades 1-4 should not exceed 80 pupils. The site for the LET'S PREVENT ABUSE presentation can be a quiet media center, gym or classroom large enough to accommodate the students seated on the floor. We must have access to the room 30 minutes in advance to set up our equipment.

The LET'S PREVENT ABUSE Puppet Program is presented in elementary schools between October and April. All requests are scheduled on a first-come first-served basis. We will try to honor a requested date for scheduling your performance, but we appreciate some flexibility, as all our puppeteers are volunteers. After the LPA Puppet Program has been scheduled, a written confirmation is mailed 2-3 weeks prior to the show date along with teacher materials. We encourage teachers to use the pre and post-show discussion suggestions and to utilize the resource manual for additional information. The teacher packet also provides letters of explanation to be sent home to families in advance of the scheduled show date. All teachers will be requested to fill out an evaluation form immediately following the performance. We will also send a follow-up survey to the school's contact person in order to determine the impact of the program. The response from students, teachers and parents has been excellent and indicates very positive results.

The LET'S PREVENT ABUSE Puppet Program is available at a cost of \$75 per presentation or \$200 for three presentations in one day at a school. A limited amount of scholarship money is available.

If you would like to schedule the Let's Prevent Abuse Puppet Program for your school in the Twin Cities metro area, please fill out and return the attached request form. We will contact you to set a date.

If you have any further questions, please contact the PACER office at (952) 838-9000 or puppets@pacer.org. Thank you for your interest in PACER's LET'S PREVENT ABUSE Puppet Program.

Sincerely,

PACER's Puppet Programs Coordinators

LET'S PREVENT ABUSE Puppet Shows
Twin Cities Area of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota
Request For Presentation Grades 1-4

SCHOOL: _____ DISTRICT: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ TITLE: _____

MAIN OFFICE PHONE: _____ CONTACT PHONE: _____

FAX: _____ EMAIL: _____

PERFORMANCES: 1) Maximum of 80 students each program grades 1-4
2) Maximum of 3 programs can be presented in each day with 1 hour break

COST: \$75 ea. 1-2 programs, \$200 for 3. **SEND BILL TO:** _____

Number of programs requested: _____ Grade level (s) _____

Number of students attending: _____ *Number of teachers/aides/adults:* _____

Site/room in school for presentation: _____

DIRECTIONS from **nearest major highway** to site (please include map, parking, and door entry location):

Do you prefer a particular month? _____

Dates during selected month that are **not** available? _____

Weekdays/times are that are preferred? _____

What time does your school begin? _____ Lunchtime(s) _____ School Ends? _____

Reason for requesting this program _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Informational letters in English are provided for the students to take home **prior** to the program presentation. Please check if you would also like an **original for copying in any of the following languages:**

Hmong _____

Somali _____

Spanish _____

IMPORTANT: A designated mandated reporter must be present at each show, or we will be unable to perform the show at that time. Who will assume the role of designated reporter during the Let's Prevent Abuse Puppet Show and what is their title? _____

RETURN TO: PACER Center, Inc., Let's Prevent Abuse, 8161 Normandale Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55437
(952) 838-9000 Voice (952) 838-0199 Fax (952) 838-0190 TTY