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SAMPLE

PROCLAMATION FOR
VIOLENCE PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK
~~MAY 14 - 28, 1995~~

Councillor Toomey

April 3, 1995

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health

WHEREAS: ~~(Your agency/office/program)~~ has set aside the weeks of May 14 - 28, 1995 as Violence Prevention Awareness Week. We have come to the realization that all types of violence including homicide, child abuse, youth violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and elder abuse have increased in recent years; and

WHEREAS: Violence defined as the use of force with the intent to harm oneself or another, is an important public health problem; and

WHEREAS: Education and Public Awareness can succeed in the prevention of violence and the protection of potential victims; and

WHEREAS: In addition to engendering prosocial values and actions, there is a range of effective anger management, conflict resolution, and self control strategies that we can teach our citizens; and

WHEREAS: In order to educate the public and raise awareness that Violence Prevention Works we are entering into a week of activities sponsored by community groups, agencies, schools, law enforcement, and volunteer advocates; and

WHEREAS: We must continue to emphasize a major commitment to violence prevention in (your city/town); *and therefore be it*

that this City Council go on record Proclaiming

~~NOW:~~ THEREFORE, I, ~~(mayor/select person/city council)~~, do hereby proclaim May 14 through May 28, 1995 as

Resolved:

VIOLENCE PREVENTION: INCREASE THE PEACE WEEKS

the City of Cambridge
in ~~your (city/town)~~ and urge the citizens of ~~(your city/town)~~ to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
150 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111

WILLIAM F. WELD
GOVERNOR

ARGEO PAUL CELLUCCI
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

GERALD WHITBURN
SECRETARY

DAVID H. MULLIGAN
COMMISSIONER

TST

March 1995

Dear Colleague:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health would like to invite you to participate in **Violence Prevention: Increase The Peace Weeks, May 14-28, 1995**. This year, violence prevention activities are planned for a two week period. The first week will focus on Boston activities, the second week on statewide events.

Violence prevention will be achieved through the combined efforts of many individuals as well as state and community based agencies. Although the problem may seem overwhelming, our efforts will make a difference. **"Increase The Peace Weeks"** are an ideal time to sponsor violence prevention activities.

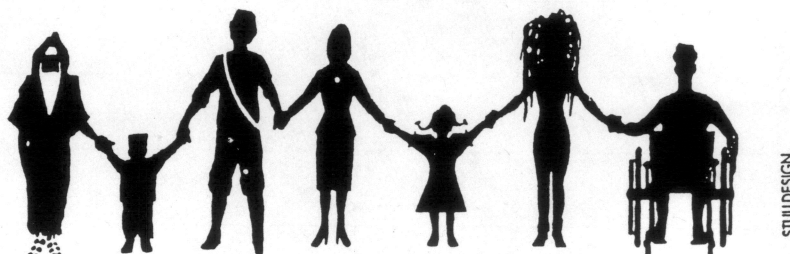
An Event Description Form to help us publicize planned activities is included. We encourage you to mail the completed form to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Office of Violence Prevention, 150 Tremont Street, Boston, MA. 02111. The form may also be faxed to (617) 727-6088. We need to receive your information no later than **Friday, April 21, 1995** in order to include it in a statewide calendar of activities.

Thank you for your interest and participation in this important activity. I look forward to your response. If you have any questions about **Violence Prevention: "Increase the Peace Weeks"**, contact Selena Respass, Office of Violence Prevention at (617) 727-1246.

Sincerely,

David H. Mulligan

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION
VIOLENCE PREVENTION: INCREASE THE PEACE WEEKS
MAY 14 - 28, 1995



EVENT DESCRIPTION FORM

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Office of Violence Prevention is preparing a calendar of events for Violence Prevention Awareness Week. This calendar will be distributed to media across the state and to all cities and towns. If you would like your event to be included on the calendar, please complete and return this form by Friday, April 21, 1995.

NAME OF EVENT _____

DATE OF EVENT _____ TIME OF DAY _____ AM/PM _____

LOCATION _____

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON _____

AGENCY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ COUNTY _____

ZIP CODE _____ PHONE _____

TARGET POPULATIONS (check where appropriate)

Preschool _____ Agencies _____ Parents _____

Adolescents _____ Women _____ Elders _____

Children _____ General Public _____ Other _____

OVER

Please Describe Event (panel, workshop, parade, fair, etc.)

If you are planning violence prevention activities before or after May 14 - 28, we are still interested in learning about them. Please describe.

Please return form to:

Selena M. Respass
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Office of Violence Prevention
150 Tremont Street, 3rd floor
Boston, MA 02111
FAX (617) 727-6088

Ten Things Your School Can Do For Violence Prevention Week

1. **Develop a Violence Awareness Campaign--** Have students create posters, buttons or bumper stickers that promote non-violence and educate on the dangers of violence.
2. **Bring in Guest Speakers--** Your community has a wide range of expertise on the problem of violence and how to prevent it. Invite representatives from law enforcement, domestic violence, conflict resolution or counseling programs who can speak to students and staff.
3. **Monitor T.V. Violence--** Television programming is a teacher. Have students keep T.V. Logs in which they record the shows they watch and acts of violence they see in those shows. Which shows are the most violent? Which stations air the most violent programming? Write letters congratulating those who don't.
4. **Implement a Conflict Resolution Program--** How are conflicts resolved in your school? Do the adults need more conflict resolution skills? Do the students? Explore establishing new conflict resolution procedures, implementing a conflict resolution curriculum, or getting training for students and staff.
5. **Hold a Non-Violence Book Fair--** Ask the librarian to collect and display books and other print and non-print materials related to violence and non-violence. These can include novels, picture books, recordings, videos, non-fiction books and periodicals. This can be tied into a "Heroes and Heroines of Non-Violence" theme.
6. **Increase Cross-Cultural Understanding--** Divisions between people based on cultural differences can contribute to violence. But difference can also be valuable and enriching. Give students an opportunity to learn about the contributions of various cultures and a chance to discuss the difficulties and rewards of cultural diversity.
7. **Write Letters--** Let elected officials, news media, community leaders and other decision-makers know how you feel about preventing violence. Have students and staff write letters urging support of violence prevention efforts.
8. **Support Anger Awareness--** Everyone gets angry, but it needn't lead to violence. Help students identify and practice constructive ways to express anger. Ask mental health professionals for help in locating such resources as discussion tips, role-play situations, and curriculum activities.
9. **Develop a Violence Prevention Plan for Your School--** Have staff and students develop a plan for dealing with school violence. Decide procedures for intervening in violent situations, and plan for ways to prevent violence from recurring by implementing conflict resolution, anger awareness, and cultural diversity programs.
10. **Inaugurate a School Peace Prize--** Recognize contributions to violence prevention. Form a committee to establish criteria and award certificates of merit to the students, staff, and community members whose efforts make for a more peaceful and constructive school community.

And Start Planning Now for Next Year's Violence Prevention Week!

Sample of Activities from Violence Prevention Awareness Week, 1993

Boston

- Boston - COVER...RDM Coalition announces the schools from the East Zone will be conducting a variety of peaceful activities to include poetry readings, essay contests, workshops, and guest speakers to talk about violence and peace.
- Dorchester - Dorchester YMCA will have a Stop the Violence Basketball Tournament.

North

- Amesbury - Amesbury Regional Vocational Technical High School will dedicate the entire week to violence prevention. Some events will include poster contests, guest speakers and book fair. Articles will be written for both school and local newspaper.
- Lawrence - Lawrence Youth Commission, Parent Mobilization Project will have workshop for parents.
- Lowell - YWCA of Lowell, City Streets Teen Theatre, will perform an original play dealing with the causes of violence, and strategies to avoid violent situations.
- Peabody - Peabody School Department will be having a Violence Prevention Awareness Month with guest lecture Panel, Poster and Buttons Campaign and Peace Awards.
- Salem - Salem Community Alliance will be ringing their bells to call out their parishioners to gather at the Salem Commons to hold a "Vigil for Peace".
- Winthrop - Winthrop Middle School will have posters, school Peace Prize and monitor TV violence.

South

- Attleboro - New Hope in Attleboro and the Foxboro Police as co-sponsors will have speakers, literature and a candle light vigil.
- Braintree - Donald Ross School will have a Non-Violent book fair, letter writing and peace banners.
- Quincy - Baystate Community Services will have a panel of adolescents discussing their experiences with violence in the schools.

West

- Ayer - Ayer High School Human Rights Squad will advertise for the Ayer Community Violence Prevention Day March, by displaying their posters in the community business showcases.
- Springfield - Springfield Alliance for Youth will have a Youth Conference.



City of Cambridge

11.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 3, 1995

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR MYERS
VICE MAYOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

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WHEREAS: In order to educate the public and raise awareness that Violation Prevention Works we are entering into a week of activities sponsored by community groups, agencies, schools, law enforcement and volunteer advocates; and

WHEREAS: We must continue to emphasize a major commitment to violence prevention in Cambridge; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record proclaiming May 14 through May 28, 1995 as Violence Prevention: Increase The Peace Weeks in the City of Cambridge and urge citizens of Cambridge to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

In City Council April 3, 1995

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



City of Cambridge

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IN CITY COUNCIL

April 3, 1995

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

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Born Quay Gallucci Myers
Russell, Sullivan, Trantofilla

Consent Order #11 R-289

Councillor Toomey re: Violence Prevention
Week May 14- 28, 1995.

In City Council April 3, 1995

Order adopted.