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THE
CROMWELL CENTER
FOR DISABILITIES AWARENESS 
We Change Attitudes

E-News from the Cromwell Center

January 2011

In This Issue

Program Boosts Anti-Bullying Efforts
2010-2011 Annual Campaign



Students participate in the "staring exercise," which leads to conversations about looking and feeling different. How do we handle our natural curiosity to look and wonder?

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5th Grade Student:
I have ADD which is a disability that makes people think I'm crazy but I'm not, I just need to move around a lot.

Happy New Year!

We want you, our supporters, to know how successful our efforts are to change attitudes and improve the lives of students. Educators are focusing on reducing bullying in classrooms, and the Student Disabilities Awareness Program is important to their work. A school counselor stated: *The Cromwell Center's program is excellent and dovetails beautifully with the work I do with students on bully prevention.* With your generous help, we'll continue our work in 2011 and beyond.

Student Awareness Program Boosts Anti-Bullying Efforts in Schools

Bullying in schools is suddenly in the public eye since the tragic suicides of several young people-- apparently due to teasing and harassment that escalated out of control. Students with all kinds of disabilities are among the groups that experience the highest rates of verbal and physical harassment and even violence. This kind of treatment can be an everyday occurrence for students with disabilities. Not only are these students at great physical risk, but the emotional damage can be life-long and devastating. What can be done?

Anti-bullying efforts start with acceptance of differences, which is what we teach in our [Student Disabilities Awareness Program](#). We also leave quality books such as *A is for Autism, F is for Friend* in elementary school classrooms. Educators value the [books](#) as an integral part of our school program:

The lessons were so important that, coupled with the book Looking After Louis, our class had a wonderful discussion about tolerance and what kids need for their learning. 3rd Grade Teacher, November 2010

One of the program's goals is creating a safe learning environment

Quick Links...

[Our Website](#)

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Teacher, Jan. 2011:

Very interesting to witness students with unseen disabilities respond to the conversations on learning disabilities/fairness. I think it was particularly helpful for these students to hear the message.

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for all students. Children learn differently, and success in school begins with understanding these differences. Students with disabilities need a voice and continued advocacy efforts in this important discussion to prevent and end bullying in schools.

Annual Campaign Nearing Goal

The Center's 2010-2011 Annual Campaign continues with donations streaming in from around the country. The matching gift of \$5,000 has provided an incentive for increased donations from long-time donors and contributions from new donors. A heartfelt thank you to Deborah and Joe Bornstein and the Law Offices of Joe Bornstein for their remarkable generosity.

We are very grateful to [those individuals who have already contributed](#). Your donations are at work every day as our instructors visit new classrooms or return to familiar schools for a second or third session with young students. Students with and without disabilities benefit from our program, which takes place in regular classrooms during the school day.

Our campaign goal of \$50,000 is realistic, but we need you. Please help us reach more schools and young people while their minds and lives are still impressionable. [Donate](#) securely through our web site, or through the mail. Thank you for making a difference.

I love this program! The instructor is very effective, knowledgeable, and kid-friendly. The topic is important yet sensitive and it's handled beautifully! - Teacher, October 2010

Read [what other educators say](#) about our school program.

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