School-based Violence Prevention Education Services

The Orange County Department of Education’s School-based Violence Prevention Education (VPE) Services provide prevention and early intervention for children and adolescents. VPE Services provide a broad range of personalized social development services that are culturally and linguistically appropriate and consistent with the Mental Health Services Act, Prevention and Early Intervention model. Five program sub-components comprise the multi-faceted violence prevention school-based program. Each component supports the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) plan to reduce the risk of school failure.

Each of these programs provide prevention and early intervention services for parents, children and adolescents at no-cost to Orange County public, private and charter schools, and community-based organizations.

Crisis Response Network (CRN)

The Crisis Response Network was developed to support school communities in crisis preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. CRN’s mission is to provide pre-incident training to school and community-based personnel to build capacity to respond in a structured and effective manner.

CRN Services:
- Develop a team of trained crisis responders serving all Orange County schools.
- Coordinate, manage, and mobilize responders during a crisis response.
- Support delivery of aftercare services in times of need.
- Deliver crisis response training to schools, youth service providers, parents and students.
- Provide HOPE Animal Assisted Crisis Response Dogs to promote therapeutic response.

For further information, please contact Mimi Marrocco at hmarrocco@ocde.us or 714.953.2472.
OC Safe from the Start: Reducing Children’s Exposure to Violence

OC Safe from the Start (SFTS) is a public health campaign that provides strategies to assist communities in reducing the impact of violence on children and adolescents by providing education and raising awareness. The strategies support a decrease in the number of youth who are exposed to violence and who may suffer from behavioral or cognitive difficulties and symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Content is research-based with a focus on how exposure to violence impacts brain development. Most importantly, a message of HOPE is delivered through understanding brain development and learning how the brain can be rewired and healed.

SFTS Services:

- Provide parent presentations - materials and presentations are available in multiple languages (English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, and Farsi).
- Provide presentations for pregnant teens, parenting minors, and transitional-age youth.
- Deliver trainings for educators, counselors, nurses, mental health providers, community-based organizations, social workers, juvenile justice providers, probation, and faith-based organizations.

For further information, please contact Jannell Jones at jjones@ocde.us or 714.327.8195. Visit www.ocde.us/ocsfts

Digital Citizenship

A comprehensive, research based K-12 curriculum (Common Sense Media) that teaches 21st century learners how to use technology in a responsible, safe, and ethical manner while helping them make better decisions around cyber bullying, online privacy and safety, and creative commons and copyright. The curriculum meets E-Rate and Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA) compliance.

Digital Citizenship Services:

- Provide parent presentations on Digital Citizenship.
- Train school staff on Common Sense Media curriculum so that they can teach the curriculum to students.
- Reward students with posters and incentives upon completion of the curriculum.

For further information, please contact Leslie Corbett at lcorbett@ocde.us or 714.966.4115.
Anti-Bullying/Media Literacy

The Anti-Bullying/Media Literacy program seeks to educate elementary, middle, high school students and their parents concerning the harmful effects of bullying, while creating a positive safe school climate.

Anti-Bullying/Media Literacy Services:

- Provide assemblies to elementary schools – “ONE” is an interactive assembly with award-winning author Kathryn Otoshi that captures students hearts and leaves a lasting impression as they commit to kindness.
- Provide assemblies to middle/high schools – “I’ve Got Your Back” is a two-day training and assembly that builds empathy and ignites a movement of respect throughout school campuses. Students are given tools to lead their peers in celebrating diversity.
- Deliver parent presentations on Media Literacy – this presentation educates parents on social trends and provides education on how to protect their children.

For further information, please contact Victoria Johnson at vjohnson@ocde.us or 714.953.6513.

Conflict Resolution and Peer Leadership

These trainings prepare school site staff to implement youth development programs that actively engage students in efforts to create a positive school climate.

Conflict Resolution and Peer Leadership Services:

- Provide trainings for:
  - Peer Assistance Leadership (PAL®) elementary and secondary advisors.
  - Peer conflict mediation elementary and secondary coordinators.
- Deliver conflict resolution elementary curriculum training for teachers.
- Offer conflict resolution workshops to middle and high school students.
- Coach youth to lead violence prevention campaign funding opportunities.

For further information, please contact Elke Petras at epetras@ocde.us or 714.966.4458.
Left untreated, mental health disorders in children and adolescents lead to higher rates of suicide, violence, school dropout, family dysfunction, juvenile incarcerations, alcohol and other drug use, and unintentional injuries. Schools play a vital role in creating safe, nurturing school environments and providing care to students with emotional or behavioral problems.”

- National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion