

# Safe School Ambassadors®

## PROGRAM FACTS

### About the Program:

- 40 diverse and socially-influential student leaders are chosen by both administration and their peers through an innovative and thorough selection process.
- These students are trained in communication and intervention skills to prevent, deescalate, and stop mistreatment amongst their peers safely.
- The program is sustained by utilizing regularly-scheduled small group meetings, in which Ambassadors strengthen their skills, share their experiences, and record their interventions.

### About Safe School Ambassadors:

- With fifteen trainers located in seven states throughout the country, Community Matters has implemented Safe School Ambassadors programs in over 600 public and private schools across 23 states and Canada.
- Since 2001, more than 20,000 student Ambassadors have been trained.
- Right now, these students are reducing cruelty and violence in schools and neighborhoods all across our country.

### As a result of Safe School Ambassadors' interventions, schools experience:

- Decreased discipline referrals, suspensions and expulsions.
- Decreased tension and increased tolerance.
- Increased flow of information to adults about potentially hurtful and violent acts.
- Overall improvement in school climate.
- Increased attendance and improved academic performance.

The unique combination of components/strategies implemented by the Safe School Ambassadors program set it apart from other anti-bullying programs. In particular, these three – the criteria for Ambassador selection, the ways they are trained in specific skills so that they then can spontaneously and informally intervene, and the ongoing small group meetings – are the most significant and innovative features of this program.

**“I learned to prevent the teasing and bullying that leads to fights in my school.”**

--student, Edendale Middle School, California

**“It made me realize that I can help make the school safe.”**

--high school student, Los Angeles Unified School District, California

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