



Physical Abuse Awareness Puppet Program

Maximum Number of Students: 50
Program Length: 30 minutes

Program Synopsis

Nam is surprised to see Stephen at Open House with his mom because he heard rumors that Stephen's mom hurt him. Stephen says that his mom used to hurt him, but now she is getting help and has stopped. He talks about her anger problem, what she did to him (pushing, slapping, throwing things at him), his injuries, how he felt emotionally, how he and his family got help, and then answers questions from the audience.

Note: Stephen's mom is not in the show; she is referenced off stage.

Key Program Points:

- Abuse is *never* the child's fault.
- The definition of physical abuse classifies it as a "hitting problem," meaning it leaves a bruise or cut, causes a broken bone, or leaves some other mark on a person's body that lasts into the next day, or longer.
- Abuse often occurs with someone a child knows. In Stephen's case, it is his mom, who loves him very much but has an anger problem.
- Students learn how to make a safety plan.
- Identify helpful adults in a child's support system.
- Families can get help.

Resources

[Prevent Child Abuse Vermont](#)

[KidSafe Collaborative](#)

Vermont Department of
Children and Families
[Prevention Resource Guide](#)

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Have a good resource you'd
like to share? Email Karen at:
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