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

Have a good resource you’d like to share? Email Karen at: karen.sharpwolf@vtfn.org

For more information about our programs, or ways we support families, please visit www.VermontFamilyNetwork.org or call (800) 800-4005