### Workshop Sessions Preview

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<td><strong>“A Classroom of Difference”</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Presenter: Erin Beacham&lt;/i&gt;</td>
<td>This Anti-Defamation League workshop will provide tools for empowering school and community members with the necessary knowledge, empathy and skills to challenge and respond to all forms of bias and bigotry. ADL’s Southeast Region’s “No Place for Hate” serves 250 schools in 4 states, with Huntsville City Schools and Atlanta Public schools working on their designations district-wide.</td>
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<td><strong>Every Story Counts</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Presenter: Bryetta Callawoy&lt;/i&gt;</td>
<td>More powerful than the statistics and data surrounding bullying are the narratives of the children, parents, educators and community members that are affected. Awareness campaigns, programming, and funding proposals all rely on the ability to manifest the positive effects of anti-bullying efforts in your program or school. We will show you how to cultivate and articulate the stories of your target population for maximum efficacy and will share with you the latest public awareness campaign that successfully navigated this concept as a template for your own implementation.</td>
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<td><strong>Bullying and Mobbing in the Workplace and Academe</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;i&gt;Presenter: Kevin Coonrod&lt;/i&gt;</td>
<td>Acts of bullying and mobbing are unfortunately prolific within the workplace. Both insidiously destroy morale and productivity within an organization, sometimes with disastrous consequences. Each manifests itself, however, by different characteristics. In this presentation, you will learn to recognize inappropriate, abrasive conduct, the toll it takes on the individual and the organization, and how to cope with and curtail</td>
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abusive behavior in the workplace and higher educational academic institution.

“The President is Visiting Your School”—
Changing Our Perspectives on Addressing Bullying and Student Discipline
Presenter: Quentin Fretwell

Yes, we must address bullying in schools. However, is bullying a stand-alone concern or a symptom of a larger issue? This session will provide information and strategies for effectively addressing bullying through the lens of a greater comprehensive approach to overall student discipline. It is posited that school officials will realize a more effective and sustainable impact on bullying and other misbehavior, not only through swift responses to incidents, but also through creating positive school cultures/climates and strategic support.

“Strong Youth, Strong Communities”
Presenter: Darrell Green

Darrell’s presentation includes life stories and life lessons, as well as an interactive Q & A. Following an initial presentation, attendees split up into small groups, where they share and discuss relevant issues and topics related to bullying, healthy minds and healthy bodies. The groups then come back together to share intervention strategies.

Practical Anti-Bullying Strategies for Community Youth Organizations
Presenter: June Jenkins

This session is designed for leaders, staff, and volunteers in youth-serving organizations, youth groups, athletic programs, and other community settings where youth gather outside of the school day. The session will provide tools that the adults need to prevent and intervene in bullying situations and improve relationships among participating youth. We know bullying can happen anywhere that kids interact; therefore, community youth leaders play a key role in preventing peer abuse. The ten practical strategies presented are based on the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program.

Bullies in the Workplace: Why are they successful and what can be done about it?
Presenter: April Jones and Debra Ward

Bullying has reached epidemic proportions in the workplace. Workplace bullying not only impacts the health and well-being of its victims, it also impacts organizations through decreased productivity, excessive absenteeism, and costs associated with employee turnover. Despite these adverse consequences, many upper level leaders actually create conditions within their organizations that foster bullying. This workshop will outline the organizational circumstances that promote bullying, as well as discuss the different
“Be the Solution! The Impact of Bullying & How You Can Help Fight It”  
**Presenter:** Dr. Dara Richardson, M.D., Jeremiah Anthony, Jeff Luce, LPC, Isabella Griffin, and Bobby Jones

This session gives attendees the opportunity to engage in a dialogue aimed at recognizing and empowering young people to be the solution for overcoming the many negative impacts of bullying on the mental health and wellbeing of themselves and their peers. Join this conversation with a diverse group of experts that includes mental health professionals, advocates, and young people who have created successful programs that fight bullying and support positive environments in their schools.

4-H Bully Busters: Teens Listening and Caring (TLC)  
**Presenters:** Cheryl Varnadoe, Katherine Raczynski, and Oakley Perry

Bullying is an issue that concerns young people as well as the adults in their lives. The behaviors of bullying have consequences for everyone. It impacts not only those who are bullied and those who do the bullying, but also bystanders who witness these behaviors. The “4-H Bully Busters” workshop will emphasize prevention, intervention, support, and control. Attendees will experience hands-on activities that can be replicated in schools, clubs, and communities. Resources to address bullying and cyberbullying will also be shared. Attendees will acquire ideas and support to address bullying.

Using Cognitive Behavior Therapy to Treat Bullying  
**Presenters:** Sonji Willingham, Ann Sheppard, Jessica Reardon and Javonte Rosello

Bullying can dramatically lower the self-esteem of the individual being bullied which may interfere with the development of social skills and normal relationships. Individuals of bullying may find a supportive and safe environment to address their feelings in therapy. Therapy can help victims of bullying notice, share, and process painful feelings as well as teach coping skills, such as assertive communication and boundary-setting. People who bully may also benefit from therapy. Bullies will understand the impact their behavior has on others, explore reasons they bully, and learn new skills.

Concurrent Sessions (50 minutes)

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<td>Choice Bus</td>
<td>The Choice Bus is an experience-based learning tool designed to show young people the power of education as well as the likely consequences of choosing to drop out of school. The bus contains</td>
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a full scale replica of a prison cell which is hidden behind a curtain and flat screen television. Upon entering the bus, a short movie will quiz the audience on the earning potential of a dropout versus a high school and college graduate. The movie also features several powerful testimonials from people who regret dropping out—prison inmates. When the movie is finished, the cell is revealed demonstrating the stark reality experienced by many dropouts. Students are then invited into the prison cell to briefly experience the uncomfortable living conditions. Choice Bus will be on-site throughout the day on June 23.

Risk Factors Associated with Bullying
Presenter: Dr. Rebecca Ang

Teachers as Activists: Using a Black, Feminist Perspective to Prevent Classroom Bullying
Presenter: Shemariah J. Arki

This presentation discusses the implications of a Black, Feminist pedagogy, specifically through the use of other-mothering by teachers as a tool for bully prevention. Through the exploration of what it means to other-mother, paired with culturally relevant and responsive pedagogical practices, teachers acquire knowledge, skills and attributes which transform the minds and behaviors of students who bully from deficit-based to asset-based.

Teachers Who Bully Students
Presenter: Sandy Armstrong

Although the data shows that bullying is an escalating problem, there is little discussion on the complex issue of teachers who bully students. The reason for the lack of focus on this problem is that it is difficult to identify, address, and rectify. This session will provide insight as to how to deal with this challenge and provide tools to stop it.

“You Could Be That One”—The Adult Bystander
Presenter: Christie Black-Murrell

According to Glasner (2010), teachers and administrators can only intervene effectively if they have a clear understanding of the problem of bullying. With that in mind, if they are not effectively trained, should they do nothing? There is a need to take a deeper look at the training that is being provided for all adults in school settings in relation to bullying. This will limit the number of on-lookers or bystanders when it comes to the intervention of bullying incidents.
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<td>BridgIt</td>
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<td>Engaging and Connecting Students Through Literature and Film</td>
<td>Presenter: Michael Buchanan</td>
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<td>Save Our Sons (SOS)</td>
<td>Presenters: Michael Collier and Shareen King Pittman</td>
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<td>The Library is Safe: Come on in!</td>
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**BridgIt**
BridgIt presenters will demonstrate an effective software defense against online harassment.

**Engaging and Connecting Students Through Literature and Film**
Author/Screenwriter Michael Buchanan will discuss how books and movies offer a unique method for connecting students to each other. He will use curriculum guides to show how out-of-the-box teaching helps students develop empathy for the bullied student. The most popular books and movies for elementary, middle, and high school students will be offered.

**Save Our Sons (SOS)**
Recently, there has been a rash of police shootings of young black men that have gone unpunished for a variety of reasons. Research has shown many of the young men involved have been bullied or have been a bully. Mentoring is an avenue to reduce the number of bullies in our schools. Our sons need to be shown what to do and how to act. They need to have a mentor to model and teach appropriate behavior. The session will also outline protocols for investigating bullying incidents and ensure due process is granted for those accused.

**The Library is Safe: Come on in!**
This session will describe a middle school librarian-turned-university-professor’s personal experiences and academic research on the important role of the school library/librarian in assisting and providing a safe harbor for those students who are marginalized due to poverty or other factors of diversity. While completing a dissertation on a different topic, Dr. Cordell observed that all the librarians in her study reported that their libraries were the unofficial “safe places” for underserved, marginalized students. Since that time, she has continued to gather data from her university students.

**Cyberbullying and the Law**
The internet and social media revolutionized the way we maintain and develop relationships and the way in which we communicate. Using technology is the norm for children, adolescents, and teenagers growing up in the digital age. Unfortunately, increasing use of technology and the popularity of social media have also revolutionized the act of bullying, establishing cyberbullying—the act of bullying via the use of technology. This presentation educates
participants on federal/state laws that address cyber-bullying as well as identifies sources of recourse when cyber-bullying is a problem.

**Anti-Bullying Parent Education: A Guide to Online Resources**  
*Presenters:* Kinessa Miller Doss, Korinne Hansung Babel, Sherrionda Crawford, and Briana Gray, presenters

Bullying prevention and intervention efforts are influenced by the critical roles of parents. Literature depicts correlations between parenting factors such as close relationships, parental attitudes, discipline styles, and school/community connections with children’s involvement as a victim or bully-victim. This session will provide administrators, teachers, counselors, and school psychologists with how-to information and guidelines to address bullying, vital resources to share with parents, and aids to facilitate parental involvement in bullying prevention and intervention.

**Creating Classroom Spaces to Change Attitudes about Peer Advocacy**  
*Presenters:* Adrienne M. Duke, Melanie Allen, and Sallie Lide-Hooker

This presentation will report the effectiveness of a statewide bullying prevention program Be SAFE. Be SAFE is a program that uses a positive youth development approach to influencing the peer group, rather than individual bullies or victims. Through the use of pre- and post-questionnaires, we found that youth increased their knowledge of how to help someone being bullied and what to do when they do not feel safe. We will also discuss effective ways to manage the classroom when doing activities and talking about sensitive topics, such as bullying.

**The Creation of Bully Shutdown.com as a Tool for Bullying Prevention**  
*Presenter:* Kinnis Gosha

This session describes a proposal to conduct a study on the use of Embodied Conversational Agents (ECAs) as a bullying prevention tool for students in kindergarten through the 12th grade. The study would use a convenience sample of students, teachers, and administrators in the Atlanta Public Schools system. In the quantitative segment, interviews will be used after interaction with the ECAs to find themes in participants’ answers to construct survey questions. The quantitative segment will use the survey (informed by the interview) to determine the effectiveness of the ECAs as a bullying prevention tool.
Cyberbullying: Actionable Response Strategies for Administrators
Presenter: Dr. Sameer Hinduja

- Understand the responsibilities of schools which use technology to meet educational needs
- Consider multiple lower, appellate, and Supreme Court cases which provide precedent and guidance in this area
- Determine how policy should be structured, and whether to move towards a prohibitive or permission atmosphere regarding devices
- Apply the Response to Intervention Model to the school’s current structure and environment
- Assess the existing state of your school climate, and identify what can be done to improve it

Administrators are in the unenviable role of having to make very difficult disciplinary and policy decisions as it relates to peer harassment - both offline and online. Furthermore, they are responsible to exercise due diligence in their prevention programming, or else come under scrutiny for possible liability claims. We focus on equipping these point personnel with the knowledge they need to act through exercises based on real-world examples and research-based best practices that continue to evolve.

Georgia’s School Climate Star Rating
Presenters: Jeff Hodges and Marilyn Watson

Studies show that there is a significant difference in student achievement between schools with a positive school climate and schools with a poor school climate. Schools with a positive school climate tend to have better test scores and graduation rates. In 2011, Georgia was the first state in the nation to include school climate as an early indicator in its academic accountability system. In this session, attendees will learn how school climate survey data, student discipline data and schoolwide attendance data are used to calculate a School Climate Star Rating for all Georgia schools.

Eradicating bullying from the School culture Using a Whole School Approach
Presenter: Ronald W. Holmes

Bullying is a serious epidemic in American schools. Bullying might come in the form of direct bullying, such as physical or verbal aggression, and indirect or relational bullying, such as cyberbullying or sexting. According to the National Education Association, bullies cause nearly 160,000 students to be absent daily from school. This session will discuss a nine-step model to eradicate bullying and other forms of harassment, intimidation, and bigotry from the school culture. It is a whole school approach to
Yik Yak: What Can PK-12 Schools Learn from the College Campus
*Presenters:* Joseph Jones and Adam Crownover

The presentation discusses three of the themes that emerged from a qualitative research study that examined bullying on college campuses across the southern US: role of empathy, role of social forces, and role of ethnocentricity. In this manner, the study provides implications that teachers across grade levels may wish to consider when attempting to address bullying within educational settings.

Personal Counseling and Progressive Discipline vs. Bullying: A Collaborative Approach
*Presenters:* Michael La Haie, Kara Gibbs, Rick Hunter, Rhonda Jones, and Stuart Magness

Our personal counselors work in partnership with the Dean of Students’ office to help reduce incidents of bullying. In an effort to individualize our services to meet the needs of our students, we have remodeled our Personal Counseling Department which included implementing a Peer Mentoring Program. Participants will be educated on the efficacy of these services and the session will transition into an open discussion of anti-bullying strategies.

“ReThink”: Free and effective bullying intervention software
*Presenter:* Trish Prabhu

“ReThink” is a software app developed by 15-year-old entrepreneur Trish Prabhu. In field tests, the software has proven to be an effective deterrent when social media users have created vicious messages, prompting users to “rethink” prior to sending the message.

Positive Behavior Supports (PBS) Strategies
*Presenter:* Sandy Resa

Positive Behavioral supports (PBS) provides a framework for creating a positive environment that leads to academic success. A proactive approach creates positive behavior by utilizing consistent expectations with explicit instruction and modeling of the expectations. Character education, bullying intervention, and soft skills are included in lessons to help grow all students.

Addressing Bullying Through Literature
*Presenter:* Stacy Roberts

This presentation discusses how introducing anti-bullying literature at a young age can assist in creating safer classrooms as children progress through their grade levels. Participants will view a brief video of the children’s book *Boomer, Be Nice,* and engage in hands-on activities to create and implement strategies to address bullying in their classrooms and homes.
Can you remember the jingle that went, “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me”? Obviously that is not true. Both physical and nonphysical forms of bullying can and do happen anywhere, including online. “Over 13 million American kids will be bullied this year, making it the most common form of violence by young people” (Hirsch, 2012). Additionally, cyberbullying has become more rampant and has contributed to the suicides of multiple children. The internet has unleashed meanness to a degree unseen before. This session will provide a hands-on approach in dealing with cyberbullying, bullying, and sexting and proactive prevention and intervention strategies for parents, students, and school systems.

1. Signs, signs, everywhere the signs.
2. Learning the technology.
3. Engaging your teen.
4. Parenting in the Internet age.
5. Learning your resources.

**Poster Sessions**

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**Speaker Bios**

**Melanie Allen** received her B.S. degree in Family & Consumer Science Education from the University of North Alabama and her M.S. degree in Consumer Affairs & Public Relations from Auburn University and her Education Specialist degree in Adult Education from Auburn University. Melanie Allen is a regional extension educator for Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) serving Northwest Alabama’s 8 counties (Lauderdale, Colbert, Franklin, Lawrence, Winston, Marion, Lamar, Fayette) in Family & Child Development (FCD) programming. She is part of a state team of educators working to help citizens to develop healthy relationships, strong families, and capable children.

**Rebecca P. Ang** is Associate Professor and Head of the Psychological Studies Academic Group, National Institute of Education, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. She obtained her PhD in School Psychology from Texas A&M University. She is a Nationally Certified School Psychologist in the USA, and a Registered Psychologist in Singapore. Dr. Ang’s research and professional interests include developmental child psychopathology, and in particular antisocial, aggressive and bullying behavior, and related prevention and intervention work. She is also interested in children’s relationships with their parents and teachers, and the impact these relationships have on children’s adjustment and functioning. Dr. Ang has received a few research awards to date. For example, she received the International Council of Psychologists Seisoh Sukemune/Bruce Bain Early Career Research Award in
2006. This award was given in recognition of outstanding early career contributions to scholarly endeavors addressing psychological issues of multinational significance.

Jeremiah Anthony founded Westhighbros in 2011 to combat bullying in his high school. He has never been a victim of bullying himself but sought to fight bullying that he saw in the halls of his school and online by using the power of positive words. Westhighbros has spread from just a Twitter account in Iowa to a comprehensive movement that spans over 30 countries and 20 languages.

Shemariah J. Arki, Ph. D., identifies as an educator, an activist, and an organizer. She is an interdisciplinary scholar with expert knowledge and skills to develop, implement, facilitate, and evaluate curricula that promote institutional equity, communication, and access for traditionally marginalized students and families. As a master teacher and facilitator, she consults with a myriad of education-based organizations around issue of process improvement with a goal of moving organizations from efficient to excellent.

Sandy Armstrong is the director of the East Alabama Regional In-service Center (EARIC), one of the eleven regional in-service centers in the state of Alabama. The Center, housed at Auburn University, supports 5000 educators in 15 schools districts in eight counties. Sandy’s previous experience included working in public schools settings, both elementary and secondary, as a classroom teacher, Title 1 teacher, instructional coach, registrar, and professional development provider.

Korinne Hansing Babel, Ph.D., has 5 years’ experience as an elementary educator, 3 years’ experience as a children’s counselor, and 5 years’ experience as a mental health counselor educator. She earned a bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education, a master’s degree in School Counseling, Graduate Certificate in Play Therapy, and Ph.D. in Counselor Education. Dr. Hansing’s research interests include Self-Efficacy, Animal-Assisted Play Therapy, and Trauma-Focuses Cognitive Behavioral Therapy. Dr. Hansing has presented on various topics at the local, regional, state, and national level.

Erin Beacham is the Education Project Director for the Southeast Region of the Anti-Defamation League. Grew up in Atlanta, but spent 15 years in North Carolina. Her undergrad degree is in Psychology and African American Studies from Guilford College and Master’s degree is in Peace and Conflict Studies from University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Christie Black-Murrell, Ph.D., LPC, is a counselor, author, and visionary speaker who strives to leave a positive footprint wherever she goes. She considers herself to be a life-long learner and loves to share her motivation and inspiration with the next generation. She has a 14-year-long background of working with “walking wounded” in all forms. Dr. Murrell has worked at all school levels, from primary to high school, affording her the opportunity to be an active participant in making changes to the school climate.

Michael Buchanan’s latest co-authored novel, The Fat Boy Chronicles (2010) won the National Parenting Publication’s Gold Award and Mom’s Choice Award of Excellence. Buchanan and his co-author Diane Lang won the New York Champions of Character Award for Literature in 2013. Schools around the nation use the novel in their anti-bullying and childhood obesity initiatives. The movie, written by Buchanan and seen by millions, won multiple awards for its impacting, yet hopeful depiction of an obese and bullied 9th grader’s world. Buchanan speaks at schools nationwide about bullying and bystanders. He is a retired secondary mathematics teacher and basketball coach and recipient of a Teacher of the Year award in Georgia.
Holly B. Bush is a graduate student at Troy University pursuing her Masters of Science in Clinical mental Health Counseling. She graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor’s of Science in Psychology from Troy University. She is a member of Psi chi and a student member of the American Counseling Association. Her interests include Autism and Spectrum Disorder, ADHA anxiety disorders, sibling dynamics, and sibling bullying, and attachment styles.

Bryetta Calloway has worked in marketing, communications, and creative consultation with nonprofits nationally. With more than thirteen years of experience working in the nonprofit sector, she has conceptualized and implemented numerous marketing strategies and campaigns that seek to increase awareness and knowledge on issues ranging from AIDS and homelessness to youth-centric issues (e.g., bullying, violence, and underage and binge drinking).

Jeffrey J. Ervine, Founder and President of Bridg-it LLC, spent the first two decades of his professional life on Wall Street in financial services. His career began in public accounting (as a CPA for Deloitte), and later he became an investment banker and finally he specialized in asset management focusing in the hedge fund and private equity industry. After being defamed online in 2008 and spending several years defending his name in court, eventually winning a multi-million-dollar verdict for cyber defamation, Mr. Ervine developed an expertise and passion for helping victims of online defamation. Mr. Ervine created Bridg-it to provide school communities with the first sustainable solution to bullying, cyberbullying and harassment. Mr. Ervine is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University B.S. in Accounting and has an MBA in Finance from Columbia Business School.

Michael Collier is a 16-year educator who currently serves as an assistant principal of Britt David Magnet Academy in Columbus, Georgia. Prior to becoming an administrator, he taught math and social studies at a middle school. While at the middle school, he served on many committees: safety committee chairperson, chairperson for discipline committee, team leader, school improvement committee, and chairperson for mentoring group (Young Men of Distinction). Mr. Collier has two specialist degrees in Administration and Elementary Education from Columbus State University and Troy State.

C. Kevin Coonrod is Ombudsperson for students, faculty, Administrative & Professional and staff members at Auburn University. He is a frequent speaker on conflict resolution topics, where he enjoys conveying his confidence in the ability of people to resolve their own conflicts through creativity and self-empowerment. Coonrod is a member of the International Ombudsman Association, the California Caucus of College and University Ombuds, and the Northwest Ombuds Group. He is a Certified Organizational Ombudsman Practitioner and a member of the Alabama State Court Mediator Roster.

Coonrod comes to Auburn from the Pacific Northwest, where he received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Washington and his juris doctorate from the University of Idaho College of Law. In addition to his Bullying and Mobbing session, Kevin presents seminars and workshops entitled Working with High Conflict People; The Art and Productive Capacity of Active Listening; and Identifying Underlying Interests: Tips from Nature, History and the Cinema.

Susan Cordell, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Department of Instructional Leadership & Support at the University of West Alabama. She currently teaches graduate courses in Education Research and School Library Media. She previously worked as a middle school librarian and Spanish teacher in rural Alabama, where she was an active anti-bullying advocate for her students. Dr. Cordell earned her doctorate from the University of Alabama in Instructional Leadership. Her area of doctoral concentration was, and continues to be, diversity and issues of social justice.
Sherrionda Crawford, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Troy University, earned her Ph.D. in Counselor Education from Auburn University. She is a Nationally Certified, Licensed Professional Counselor and Certified School Counselor in Alabama. She has many years of experience in clinical mental health and school counseling, is president-elect for the Alabama Association for Multicultural Counseling & Development, and is a mentor and scholarship reviewer for NBCC. Her research interests include trends in school counseling and skill acquisition of counselors-in-training.

Adam Crownover is a high school social studies teacher in Charlotte, NC, and a doctoral student at Mercer University. His research focuses primarily on the development and maintenance of positive teacher-student relationships. He believes that adopting a relational approach to teaching will enable teachers and students to enjoy the full benefits of an affective and modern, re-humanized education.

Kenessa Miller Doss, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Troy University. She is a Nationally Certified School Psychologist and National Certified Counselor. She received her M.Ed. in Biology Education and School Counseling, and Ph.D. in School Psychology at Auburn University. She has 9 years of experience as a public school educator. She serves as the Alabama Association of School Psychologists continuing Education Co-coordinator. Dr. Doss's research interests are socioemotional functioning with an emphasis on violence and bullying, school psychology advocacy, and accessibility issues.

Adrienne M. Duke, Ph.D., is an assistant professor and extension specialist at Auburn University. She earned a M.A. in Pan-African Studies and has an M.S. and Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Currently, she is leading a state-wide bullying prevention initiative that focuses on teaching youth pro-social behaviors and strategies that help youth become allies in bullying scenarios. She is also dedicated to helping parents and school personnel become allies and advocates for safe and affirming environments for all youth.

Jeff Ervine is the founder and CEO of BridgIt. He created a sustainable solution to bullying and cyberbullying after enduring a difficult experience of being personally attacked online. It was during that period that he realized there needed to be a technology-based solution for a problem that is destroying lives, making it much more difficult to avoid or escape. Mr. Ervine is an investment professional with over 25 years of experience in accounting and finance. He is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University and has an MBA from Columbia Business School.

Quentin Fretwell, Ph.D., has worked over 35 years in the field of education, particularly in the areas of bullying, student discipline, attendance, due process, school law, and safety. During that time he has worked as a teacher, assistant principal, and district-level administrator. In 2012, he retired as Director of Student Relations with DeKalb county Schools and now works part-time as Safe Schools Coordinator. Quentin received his Ph.D. from Georgia State University and his dissertation is “Addressing Bullying in Schools: the Perceptions, Thoughts, and Beliefs of Middle-School Principals.”

Kara Gibbs, LCSW, is a Personal Counselor at Father Ryan High School. Her previous experience includes counseling adolescents in a substance abuse treatment center that employed a positive peer culture model to help adolescents build responsibility to themselves and their peers, reinforce the value of helping others through service learning, and learn how to help one another problem-solve. Since coming to Father Ryan, she has assisted in the development and implementation of a peer mentoring program individualized to apply principles of a positive peer culture model while taking into account school setting and student population’s specific needs. The aims of the peer member
program include enhancing a sense of community, connectedness, and a culture of kindness within the student body through peer-led initiatives and mentoring.

**Kinnis Gosha, Ph.D.** is an assistant professor in the Department of Computer Science and Director of the Culturally Relevant Computer Lab at Morehouse College. Dr. Gosha’s research interests include expanding computer science education, broadening participation in computing, green computing and culturally relevant computing. More specifically, Gosha’s passion lies in his research in virtual mentoring where he has several peer-reviewed research publications. Gosha’s Culturally Relevant Computing Lab is comprised of approximately 30 top undergraduate researchers from Morehouse and Spelman Colleges.

**Isabella Griffin** was a victim of bullying at age 9. She was able to overcome her bullies by being confident and finding courage to stand up for herself. Later, she found herself a bystander of a fellow student being bullied. As she watched her classmate being bullied, she started to realize that she was part of a problem, and decided instead to be the solution. She found compassion for her classmate and stood up for him. The bullying stopped and she realized that if we all had compassion for others, and felt confident in ourselves, anyone could stop a bully. In 4th grade she started Be a Buddy Not a Bully. In the 4 short years since, she has spoken to over 6000 students in schools across the United States. She wants kids just like her to know that they can put an end to bullying by just believing in who they are and doing what they know is right.

**Brianne Gray** is a Troy University alumna with a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology. She is currently pursuing a master’s degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling. Her goal is to work with the geriatric population and to have her own private practice. She is a member of Psi Chi and a student member of the Alabama Counseling Association.

**Dr. Sameer Hinduja** is a Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Florida Atlantic University and Co-Director of the Cyberbullying Research Center. He is recognized internationally for his groundbreaking work on the subjects of cyberbullying and safe social networking, concerns that have paralleled the exponential growth in online communication by young people. His articles have been cited over 6,000 times in the academic literature, and his research has been discussed or referenced in over 800 online news articles (including CNN, New York Times, Washington Times, Forbes, Yahoo News, USA Today, US News and World Report, and Chronicle of Higher Education). He also has been featured on TV (including Anderson Cooper 360), radio programs (including NPR) and various news segments. Dr. Hinduja has written seven books, and provides trainings to schools, youth organizations, parents, and teens on how to avoid online victimization and its real-world consequences. He is passionate about encouraging, empowering, and equipping others to use technology in positive ways, and helping to make kindness go viral.

**Jeff Hodges** currently serves as a Program Specialist in the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program at the Georgia Department of Education. He has over 17 years of experience in the areas of school safety, bullying prevention and intervention, student discipline, school climate improvement and drug, alcohol and violence prevention. Mr. Hodges has a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Georgia. He lives in Cherokee County, GA with his wife and twin boys.

**Ronald W. Holmes, Ph.D.** is publisher of The Holmes Education Post, an education-focused Internet newspaper. He is the author of 12 books, including *How to Eradicate Bullying*. Holmes earned a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership, an M.Ed. in Educational Administration and Supervision, and a B.S. in Business Education from Florida A & M University. He also earned an M.Ed. in Business Education
from Bowling Green State University. He is a former teacher, school administrator, and district superintendent.

**Rick Hunter, LCSW**, is a Personal Counselor at Father Ryan High School. His career as counselor has focused on the intersection of mental health treatment for adolescents and the school system. He has experience in both middle and high schools, public and private, and with high-income as well as low-income students. In each of these settings he provided mental health treatment for teens and advocated for systemic changes to improve adolescent mental health.

**June Jenkins, M.Ed.,** is a Training/Consultation Coordinator for the Olweus Bullying Prevention program in the Institute for Family and Neighborhood Life at Clemson University. Before moving to South Carolina, she was Project Director for Safe Schools/Healthy Students in Virginia. She holds a postgraduate professional license from Virginia and South Carolina in PK-12 Administration and Supervision. She holds a postgrad certificate in Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports through USF and is a Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor. She is on the Leadership Team of the SC-APBS Network.

**April Jones’** education history is as follows: BA, Stillman College, MSW, University of Alabama, MS, Faulkner University, and Ph.D., Walden University. She is an organizational psychology practitioner with over 15 years of experience in corporate training and management with governmental and nongovernmental organizations. She is a published author, researcher, and speaker within the organizational psychology profession. She has presented or been invited to present her research in Paris France; Portoroz, Slovenia; Seoul, Korea; Rhodes, Greece; and Brazil.

**Bobby Jones** is one of the nation’s most respected experts in marketing to teen and millennial audiences. As an entrepreneur, strategist and active participant in their world, Bobby has traveled the globe engaging young people and helping brands understand what shapes modern cultural youth identity. Bobby is currently Chief Marketing and Communications Officer (CMCO) of Peace First, where he leads all of its marketing and communications efforts to create a cultural counterweight to the violence, intolerance, and hatred so prevalent in our world. This shift will be powered by a community of 2.5 million young people – along with brands, influencers and innovators - who self-identify as peacemakers, feel connected to one another, and are engaged to solve the world’s biggest problems in compassionate, collaborative and courageous ways.

**Joseph R. Jones, Ph.D.,** is widely known for his research addressing bullying and homophobia in educational settings. He has published and presented copiously on the topics. His publications include four books and numerous articles, book chapters, etc. Further, he has been interviewed extensively by media outlets about his scholarship. In 2014, he was awarded a Hero Award at Auburn University’s fourth national Anti-Bullying Summit. Currently, he is the Associate Dean of Curriculum and Faculty Development at Columbus State University.

**Rhonda Jones, LPC-MHSP,** is the Director of Personal Counseling at Father Ryan High School. For the past 13 years she has worked collaboratively within various school setting to assist in the development and implementation of school-based interventions aimed at resolving student problems and promoting healthy educational environments.

**Michael La Haie** is the Dean of Students at Father Ryan High School, joining the staff in 2012. Michael’s previous administrative experience came as Dean of Students at St. Cecilia Academy, an all-girls high school in Nashville, TN. Prior to working in administration, Michael taught both middle and high school for fourteen years in public and private schools in middle Tennessee.
**Sallie Lide-Hooker** is a Family and Child Development Regional Extension Agent with the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Alabama College (University of Montevallo) in Vocational Home Economics, and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Alabama in Home Economics Education. She is a Certified Family Life Educator, Certified in Family and Consumer Sciences, and has earned the Family Development Credential. She is also a Certified Family Development Credential Educator and Field Supervisor. A former classroom teacher and social worker, Sallie currently serves eight counties in the area of Family and Child Development.

**Jeff Luce**, LPC, joined EnvolvePeopleCare (Cenpatico) in September 2014 as Clinical Director of the Southern Region (GA, SC, MS). The organization’s healthcare specialties include behavioral health, school-based services, specialty therapy and rehabilitation, community re-entry and more. Jeff provides oversight of the clinical operations in Georgia, South Carolina, and Mississippi. He is an experienced mental health executive specializing in work with children and adolescents.

**Stuart Magness** is the Assistant Dean of Students at Father Ryan High School. For the past 9 years he has worked to ensure safety and security at Father Ryan in his current role and as Director of Safety and Security and interim Dean of Students. Stuart’s previous work was with the Metro Nashville Police Department Gang Unit for seven years. Stuart is a 1995 graduate of Father Ryan High School.

**Oakley G. Perry** was trained as a Georgia 4-H Bully Buster and used his knowledge to start a bullying prevention program in his school. Bullied as a youth, Oakley credits his involvement in 4-H for helping turn his life around. Oakley now serves as a National 4-H Healthy Living Youth Ambassador and as a Great American No bull Challenge Teen Spokesperson.

**Sharen King Pittman** is a middle school teacher at Phenix City Intermediate School (PCIS) where she serves as team leader, leadership team member, and Beta Club sponsor. Previously, she taught at the alternative school in Muscogee County. She has a master’s degree from Columbus State University and has her reading endorsement.

**Trisha Prabhu** is a 15-year-old high school student, innovator, social entrepreneur and inventor of ReThink—an effective way to stop cyberbullying. ReThink is a non-intrusive, innovative, patented software product that stops cyberbullying before the bullying occurs. Inspired by the news story of the death of an 11-year old girl that committed suicide because she was repeatedly cyberbullied, Trisha took on the cause to find a solution to stop cyberbullying. Trisha has travelled the world spreading the ReThink message to stop cyberbullying at global platforms such as TEDxTeen (London), TEDxGateway (Mumbai), White house Science fair (Washington D.C.), La Ciudad De Las Ideas (Puebla, Mexico), Aspen Ideas festival (Aspen, CO) and various national and international forums, schools and universities. Trisha was selected as a Global Teen Leader by We Are Family Foundation and was awarded the "Global Anti-bullying Hero award" (student) by Auburn University and Anti-Bullying Champion award from Princess Diana Awards, UK. She was awarded Daily Points of Light award for extraordinary volunteering from President George H W Bush's foundation. Trisha was selected as Global Finalist at world-wide Google Science Fair competition 2014 for her ReThink product. Trisha is currently working tirelessly to roll-out the ReThink app to every mobile device and desktop computers in schools and communities at no cost to them. In order to engage her fellow adolescents in the ReThink movement, Trisha has created a ReThink Ambassador Program where students can become ambassadors and spread the ReThink movement at their schools to conquer cyberbullying.
Katherine Racynski, Ph.D., director of the Safe and Welcoming Schools Project (University of Georgia-UGA) has worked with schools, students, and families to prevent bullying and improve school climate for nearly 15 years. An active researcher, her work emphasizes the importance of prevention.

Sandy Resa, a retired Alabama middle school principal and teacher, utilized 28 years of experience to establish a Positive Behavior system that can be replicated in other schools and districts. With collaboration from teachers, parents, and students, a PBS program was implemented at Drake Middle School under her leadership. Sandy strongly believes a positive culture creates an environment to allow success. Though retired, Sandy continues to be involved in education by serving as a consultant with Auburn University’s Truman Pierce Institute.

Stacy Roberts, MBA, is the founder and president of SMR leadership Solutions, LLC, located in Evans, Georgia. She earned her executive coaching certification from the Academy of Creative Coaching. In addition to her coaching certification, she also has obtained her master’s degree in HR from Liberty University. Stacy is also author of Boomer, Be Nice, and Roscoe’s Rescue. Her books help teach key skills and valuable lessons to young children and adults. She believes that leadership skills can be developed at a young age and help children development into wholesome adults.

Franklin Schargel, Ph.D., is a former classroom teacher, school counselor, and school administrator in an inner-city Title 1 school. Dr. Schargel is an internationally recognized speaker and author of twelve-best-selling books. His latest book is Creating Safe Schools: A Guide for School Leaders, Classroom Teachers, counselors, and Parents. His work has been recognized by Business Week, Fortune Magazine, National Public Radio(NPR), the Public Broadcasting System, and the New York Times. He has received awards from the National Dropout Prevention Center and the International Association for Truancy and Dropout Prevention. He is a 2016 Hero Award winner at Auburn University’s Anti-bullying Summit.

Jennifer Sellers is a married attorney practicing as a contract attorney in the St. Clair County, Alabama Juvenile Family Court. Her daughter, Sydney Dane Sellers, committed suicide on December 14, 2014, with the help and encouragement of an individual who found her using the KIK app. Since then, Jennifer has been spreading Sydney's story so that other families can learn from her tragedy. Jennifer also serves as the current President of the St. Clair County Bar Association.

Ann Sheppard is a Licensed Professional Counselor and certified in Reality Oriented Physical Experiences, or ROPES. She earned her Bachelor’s in Psychology in 2004 and her Master’s in Counseling in 2007. Ann started her career dealing with teens who were at risk for dropping out of school due to various issues they were facing. Many of these students surpassed their own and the community’s expectations of them and they ended up graduating from some top universities. Ann uses Cognitive Behavior Therapy to assist clients to work through issues from divorce, substance abuse, trauma, and emotional and sexual assault. She has counseled adolescents dealing with bullying, depression, teen pregnancy, or struggling to understand their sexual orientation.

Cheryl Varnadoe has been an Extension 4-H Specialist with the University of Georgia and Georgia 4-H for the past 20 years. One of her many responsibilities is developing and leading programming for Georgia 4-H related to healthy living, including social and emotional health as well as bullying and cyberbullying prevention.

Debra Ward, M.Ed., CREE, CFLE, NCFR is a Professional Family & Child Development Regional Extension Educator for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System-Auburn University. Ms. Ward, serves (8) eight counties in the Southeast Region 4 District in the State of Alabama. Her professional duties include program planning, implementation and evaluation in the Public
Service Fields including Elementary, Middle and High Schools Students. Ms. Ward goes into the schools and present at risk and bullying programs to enhance student grades and SAT scores. She also provides Parenting programs, including Family Life Education, Family & Child Development and Managing your home and personal life skills for the community. She received her B.S. Degree in Family & Consumer Science from Jacksonville State University, Alabama, a Master Degree in Adult Education, and (ED.S). Education Specialist Degree at Auburn University.

**Marilyn Watson** currently serves as a Program Manager in the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program at the Georgia Department of Education. She graduated from North Georgia College with a major in biology and a minor in chemistry. She also attended Georgia State University and Grady Memorial Hospital to obtain a degree in Medical Technology and worked in the medical field for 9 years. She went back to school and obtained her teaching degree from the University of Georgia and she earned her Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership at Valdosta State University. She has worked in education for 26 years with over 20 years of experience in drug and violence prevention, school safety, student discipline and HIV/AIDS education.

**Anthony C. Williams, Jr.** is a musician, writer, and youth advocate with over 10 years experience tutoring and working with youth. He is passionate about helping local youth excel on the ACT test as well as become world-wise and academically competitive. Currently, Anthony is a presenter with the Mattie C. Stewart Foundation's "The Choice Bus," a mobile classroom and interactive hands on presentation that emphasizes the importance of attaining an education and making positive choices in life. Through support from various corporate sponsors, The Choice Bus reaches thousands of students each year. Anthony received the Bachelors of Arts degree in English from Stillman College on Tuscaloosa, Alabama in 2005. When not helping to working, Anthony enjoys fixing things, church, travelling, nature, playing soccer, guitar, drums and various other musical instruments with friends. **Sonji Willingham** is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Premiere Transitional Services, Inc. She has been involved in the Wounded Warriors Program and Suicide Awareness Training for Family Members for the 215th BSB 3BCT. She is the co-host of Leading Through Living Today, a 30-minute weekly television talk show on WJCN-LaGrange, where people are empowered to be the best leaders for their lives. Sonji has experience working both in a school setting and with individuals in the community. She is an advocate for helping individuals and families.