Responses to participants for two unanswered questions from CSN's webinar "Bullying Prevention: The Role YOU play" on January 31, 2008

1) James Marks: Are there upcoming Federal Funding opportunities in the near future?

Unfortunately, there are no specific federal funding sources for bullying prevention except for the U.S. Department of Education's Safe and Drug Free Schools funds at the local and state levels. Although there may not be upcoming federal funding specifically for bullying prevention activities, states may utilize funding through the following sources for bullying prevention:

- Department of Education (DOE)/Department of Justice (DOJ)/Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Safe Schools, Healthy Students grants
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) grants
- Title V Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB) funds, as part of the Health Resources and Services Administration
- Preventive Health and Health Services (PHHS) Block Grant
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) block grants

Some states, such as Oklahoma, have used their Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) grant funds from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to support bullying prevention. Also, there are also local foundations and organizations that might be interested but that would be specific to each locality.

We recommend reviewing CSN's funding fact sheets to trigger other ideas. <u>http://notes.edc.org/HHD/CSN/csnpubs.nsf/cb5858598bf707d58525686d005ec222/07f12</u> <u>e066bff841c85257091005d9058/\$FILE/FUNDING.pdf</u>

CSN is happy to provide information about bullying; the <u>www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov</u> can give background information about bullying.

CSN can help you connect with state contacts in states with bullying prevention laws.

You can start by compiling data and information on the problem in your state and work through formal or informal channels to get that information into the hands of the decision makers.

²⁾ Catherine Davidavage: does anyone have any suggestions on getting our legislators on board? PA has no law that we know of.

One challenge is that many state employees are often restricted in advocating on any issues to legislators. However, there are many avenues to explore to educate policy makers and their constituents about the issue.

We recommend contacting the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL); Martha King is in the Health Program section. Her phone is 303-856-1448 and email is martha.king@ncsl.org. NCSL is currently a collaborative partner of PIPPAH (Partners in Program Planning for Adolescent Health) which is funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). So, currently they have a vested interest in adolescent health and can probably lend guidance on "how-to" approach or what catches a legislator's attention as well as what they may have been or are currently involved in doing.