

# Bullying Prevention and Education Grant

2020 Fact Sheet



## School Bullying Prevention & Education Grant

The School Bullying Prevention and Education Grant (BPEG) is a state-funded program designed to reduce the frequency of student bullying in Colorado. The program provides support to help schools implement evidence-based bullying prevention best practices, include families in their efforts, and adopt effective policies on bullying prevention and education. Funded by marijuana tax dollars, each year the BPEG distributes nearly \$2 million to schools around the state to prevent bullying.

Funds may be used for the following:

- Purchasing evidence-based bullying prevention best practices
- Educating parents and legal guardians about bullying prevention efforts
- Developing student leadership and voice in bullying prevention efforts
- All aspects of measuring the impact of bullying prevention efforts
- Hiring an Implementation Coach to support the work

## Grantees

The first cohort of grantees was selected through a competitive grants process in 2016 and completed their final year of the grant at the end of the 2018-19 school year. This inaugural cohort spans five educational regions, 14 local education agencies, and 71 schools. In total, 34,423 students were impacted by the BPEG across all schools.



In the first three years of the grant, schools engaged in numerous bullying prevention best practices. Programmatic shifts led to thousands of Colorado students learning about bullying, knowing how to respond when they experience it, and understanding the best ways to prevent it. Many students were directly involved in teaching lessons, leading kindness groups and activities, and working to create a more positive climate in their schools. Systemic changes at the school level also began. Schools reviewed and revised their policies on bullying prevention, created committees specifically dedicated to analyzing local data to inform bullying interventions, and engaged families and the community in their bullying prevention efforts. Several grantees, including those in the Adams 12, Pueblo 60, and Lamar school districts, have received local and national media attention for their bullying prevention efforts.

### Success Stories

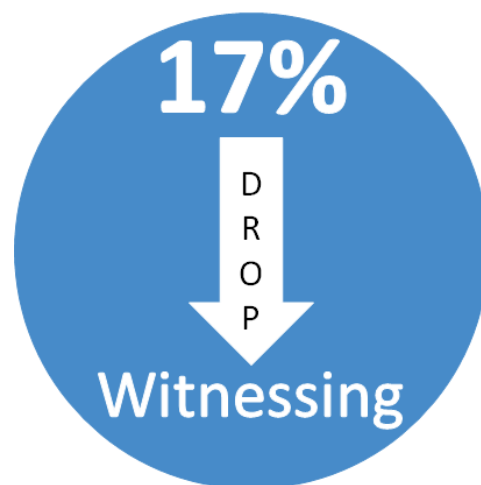
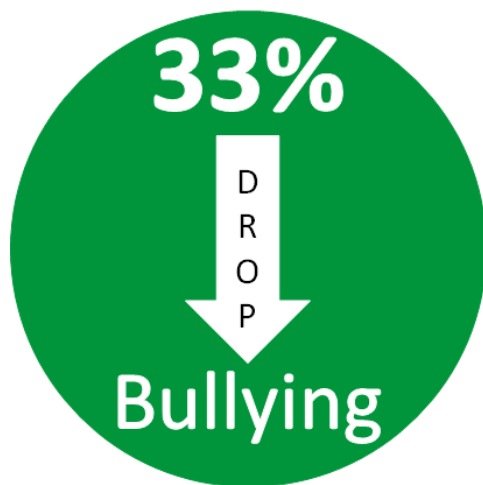
BPEG schools have experienced a **33% overall drop in bullying.**

"The CDE Bullying Prevention and Education Grant has given us a framework, structures, and a toolbox to enact real, sustainable change in our school and larger community."

- Westgate Charter School

"...the teachers were very surprised and enthused by the quality of the lessons. Teacher buy-in is happening and many teachers are beginning to see the validity in the program..."

- Pueblo City Schools 60



## Results

Each year, grantees are required to survey their students on the frequency of (1) being the target of bullying, and (2) witnessing bullying. Schools collected baseline data during the spring of the 2016-17 school year, prior to the implementation of any prevention efforts. On average, 37% of students reported being the target of bullying and 51% reported witnessing bullying. Results from the 2018-19 spring survey found an average of 25% of students reporting being the target of bullying and 43% of students reporting witnessing bullying.

This means that students in BPEG schools experienced 33% less bullying and witnessed 17% less bullying by the end of the grant. Both of these numbers represent a statistically significant decrease in bullying.

## Funding

If you know a school, district, or BOCES that could benefit from a reduction in bullying, CDE accepts applications for the BPEG every two years. Cohort 2 schools were able to receive up to \$25,000 per year to implement bullying prevention best practices. Districts are encouraged to apply for multiple schools to maximize their funding opportunity.

There are two phases to the application process. The first phase involves submitting a written plan to CDE on how the applicant will use grant funds to prevent bullying. If recommended for approval into Phase 2, schools will begin completing activities to demonstrate their readiness to implement the grant including conducting a baseline survey of students (funds will be provided for the baseline survey).

The next application window is anticipated to open in the fall of 2021.

## WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

- BPEG Website <https://www.cde.state.co.us/mtss/bullying>
- Colorado Model Bullying prevention Policy : [https://www.cde.state.co.us/mtss/model\\_bullying\\_prevention\\_policy](https://www.cde.state.co.us/mtss/model_bullying_prevention_policy)
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