

### Program Details

**Title:** Peers Making Peace  
**Sphere of Influence:** Peer

**Program Type:** Peer Mediation  
**Rating:** Effective

**Age:** 5 to 22  
**Gender:** Both  
**Ethnicity:** Not Specified

**Target Population:** All Youth

#### Other Characteristics:

##### Endorsed By:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SAMHSA: Model Programs         | <input type="checkbox"/> OJJDP: Blueprints                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NIJ: What Works                           | <input type="checkbox"/> NIDA: Preventing Drug Use          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dept ED: SDFS                  | <input type="checkbox"/> OJJDP/CSAP: Strengthening Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HHS: Surgeon General's Youth Viol. Report |   |

### Risk Factors

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Academic Failure</i>                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>School Dropout</i>                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Peer Alcohol, Drug Use and Delinquency</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>AntiSocial Behavior and Alienation</i>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Favorable Attitude Toward Drug Use</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Early Onset of Violence</i>                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Early Onset of Alcohol and Drug Use</i> |   |   |

### Protective Factors

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Caring and Support</i>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>High Expectations</i>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Clear Standards and Rules for Appropriate Behavior</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Youth Participation, Involvement, and Responsibility in School Tasks and Decisions</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Involvement with Positive Peer Group Activities and Norms</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Social Competencies</i>                                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Commitment to Community and School</i>   |  |   |

### Program Description

#### Program Intervention:

Peers Making Peace (PMP) is a peer-mediation program developed to help create and maintain safe and drug free schools by equipping students with attitudes and skills to stay drug-free, stay in school and avoid violence by resolving conflicts in a peaceful, prosocial manner. The goal of the program is to improve the school environment by reducing violence, assaults, discipline referrals, and increasing academic performance. The program operates by training teams of students to serve as drug free role models and "neutral third parties" to provide mediation services for their peers who lack the skills to successfully resolve their conflicts. The intervention is designed to increase resiliency in the individual and peer domains in social competence, personal problem solving skills, sense of autonomy, and opportunities for meaningful participation. The intervention increases protective factors in the school and family domains by involving youth in highly structured, scripted, supervised peer mediations to resolve conflict, booster training sessions for peer mediators, and by promoting new skills in family communication involving both parents and youth.

#### Evaluation Methodology:

## Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Program Description www.dsgonline.com

The evaluation utilized a sample derived from the original 12 high schools that participated in the PMP evaluation. Student population samples in both the treatment and control schools were selected randomly. The individual records utilized in the treatment schools represent the students who were participants in the PMP training and served in their respective schools as peer mediators and randomly selected students to controls. Control schools had demographic and ethnographic representation similar to treatment schools. Data from 360 students was collected for the treatment and control groups prior to initiation of the program and after completion of the program.

### **Evaluation Outcome:**

The evaluation found that there was a significant difference in discipline referrals, assaults, and expulsions post evaluation between intervention and control schools. Specifically, discipline referrals decreased by 57.7% in treatment schools, but increased by 8.4% in control schools. Assaults decreased by 90.2% in treatment schools, while increasing by 33% in control schools. Expulsions decreased by 73% in treatment schools, but increased by 6.2% in control schools.

### **References:**

Landry, Robert. 2003. Peers Making Peace: Evaluation Report. Houston, TX: Research and Educational Services.

## **Program Contact**

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