



SOCIETY FOR PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE

A National Society and
Ashland University Affiliate

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newsletter

NEW HOME FOR SPV

The Society for Prevention of Violence has moved to the following new location:

**Jefferson Park
Ashland Cleveland Center
4645 Richmond Road
Warrensville Heights, Ohio 44128**

NEW DIRECTOR HIRED

David E. Volosin was appointed Executive Director of SPV on March 15, 2009. He replaced Dr. Jane Sembric who held the position from 1999-2009. Mr. Volosin previously worked in the Cleveland Metropolitan School System for 35 years before he retired in February 2009. His last assignment in CMSD was principal at Max S. Hayes High School.

TRIBUTE to Dr. Jane Sembric

Special thanks to Dr. Jane Sembric who served as the Executive Director of the Society for Prevention of Violence from 1999-2009. She worked very hard to continue the mission of the Society to reduce asocial and violent behavior in children and adults. The Society wishes her well in her retirement years.

SPV JOINS ASHLAND UNIVERSITY'S CLEVELAND CENTER

On April 28, 2009, the President's Cabinet of Ashland University approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Ashland University and the Society for Prevention of Violence (SPV). This MOU provides for moving the Society for Prevention of Violence into the Ashland University Cleveland Center, which is located at 4645 Richmond Road in Warrensville Heights, Ohio.

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Frank Huml, Acting President for SPV's Board of Trustees, presented the opportunity to Ashland's Cabinet, along with Larry Pfrogner, the Center Director in Cleveland. John Sikula, Ashland University's Executive Director for Regional Centers, introduced the idea saying, "This is one way that Ashland University can make better daytime use of its Regional Centers while supporting mutually beneficial activities in keeping with our mission and tradition of positively impacting schools in northeast Ohio and beyond."

The three-year agreement allows two full time staff members from SPV to function out of the Ashland Cleveland Center without paying rent but sharing ongoing staffing and operational expenses. The Society for Prevention of Violence will promote new programming opportunities via grants, etc. Ashland University's Professional Development Services office will provide graduate credit for SPV workshops.

NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH HARMONY SCHOOL

Harmony Education Center is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization with five divisions:

1. Harmony School, in Bloomington, Indiana, is an independent school serving 200 students from age three in the early childhood program, through the elementary and middle school, to graduation from the high school. They offer personalized, project based learning with an ethos supporting conflict resolution and community service.
2. Rhino's Youth Media Center is an after school program in an alcohol, tobacco, drug and violence free environment.
3. The Institute for Research at Indiana University School of Education has published two books on progressive, democratic education through the SUNY Press and dozens of articles in leading national educational journals.
4. The National School Reform Faculty (NSRF) centers on a proprietary form of professional development that creates professional learning communities through the use of Critical Friends Groups. NSRF has trained more than 200 national facilitators who are qualified to create seminar experiences to train 15,000 coaches who create CFG's that change participating educators classroom attitudes and behaviors in ways that result in greater student achievement for all students. There are 40 regional centers of activities in 26 states including two in Indiana and one in Ohio.
5. The Outreach Office is the national home of the NSRF. It also helps the small schools, student media and progressive education to network their success stories.

SPV AND Harmony Center will partner on a three-year systemic plan to reduce asocial behavior and violent acts in schools through an ongoing integration of social skills and anti-violence training for adults, students and community. SPV and Harmony Center will train trainers in selected schools. The trainers will provide inservice training and technical assistance to staff at faculty meetings, professional days, parent meetings, etc. SPV and Harmony Center will provide ongoing training for the trainers throughout the school year. A pre and post assessment will be administered in each building to measure program effectiveness.

SPV WORKBOOK INFORMATION

Workbooks are available on the SPV website at <http://spvmail.home.att.net>. Please select the “Ready to Use Social Skills Lessons and Activities” or “Ready to Use Violence Prevention Skills Lessons and Activities.” Workbooks can be ordered online or by calling **1-216-591-1876**.

These workbooks give teachers, parents and specialists a stimulating systematic way to develop both positive social behaviors in students and prevent violence at all grade levels. The cost is \$29.95 per workbook.

In addition, the Society is negotiating with a publisher to produce the workbooks in a Spanish version.

CLEVELAND STATE CONNECTION

SPV will partner with the Cleveland State University Greater Cleveland Educational Development Center to offer several classes during the Fall of 2009 at the main campus at CSU. SPV instructors will teach these fall classes.

NEW SPV INITIATIVES

- 1. Market the SPV program statewide through an enhanced computer system**
- 2. Schedule additional classes at both colleges and universities as well as Educational Service Centers**
- 3. Increase SPV membership**
- 4. Pilot trainer-to-trainer program at selected buildings with Harmony Center**
- 5. Increase availability of online classes**
- 6. Publish an online newsletter twice each year**
- 7. Train additional instructors for new workshop sites**
- 8. Continue to expand the partnership with Ashland University**

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE AND BECOME A SPV MEMBER?

Please join us and support SPV. A membership link is located on our website at <http://spvmail.home.att.net>. Please make checks payable to: Society for Prevention of Violence. All members will receive two newsletters each year as well as noteworthy emails highlighting special events and initiatives. **JOIN TODAY.....**

DONATIONS (THANK YOU)

- Meritech Corporation, through the help of Dennis Bednar, donated a copier to SPV for use in the new office in the Ashland Cleveland Center.
- Carlson & Associates, through the help of Jeff Carlson, donated office equipment for the new office in the Ashland Cleveland Center.
- The Begun Foundation donated a new computer with expanded software to improve the marketing of the SPV course offerings throughout the region. In addition, a technical support agreement was included in the package to eliminate startup problems with the new system.

NEW INSTRUCTORS FOR WORKSHOPS

SPV is training additional instructors to teach classes at the local colleges and universities. In addition, the Educational Service Centers are offering SPV classes this summer and fall. The first training session on May 5, 2009, had five new instructors trained for summer and fall workshops. The training session on Saturday, June 13, 2009, had six additional new instructors trained for summer and fall workshops. Please call the office at 1-216-591-1876 if you are interested in becoming a SPV instructor.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Visit the website at: <http://spvmail.home.att.net>

NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM

SPV's new computer system will help market new courses and provide better communication with educators throughout the State and nation. Special thanks to the SPV Trustees for addressing this need for the program.

BEGUN CENTER FOR SAFE SCHOOLS

The move to the Ashland Cleveland Center has created an environment to locate the Begun Center for Safe Schools. The Begun Center will identify resource personnel to offer support to schools who are experiencing problems with either asocial behavior or violent acts. Rooms are available at the Center to offer inservices and workshops.

NEW ONLINE CLASS

SPV is offering an online, “Social Skills Training – The Missing Link” class this summer. The class is offered for 1 semester credit through Ashland University. Contact the SPV office for more information at 1-216-591-1876 or go to Ashland University website at www.ashlanduniversity.edu (Elyria Center under online classes)

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Please read the article “Understanding Theories of Violence: Keys to Prevention” by Vincent J. Granito, Jr., Ph.D. who is the Assistant Professor of Psychology at Lorain County Community College.

The article is on the SPV website: <http://spvmail.home.att.net>

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