

safe2tellSM

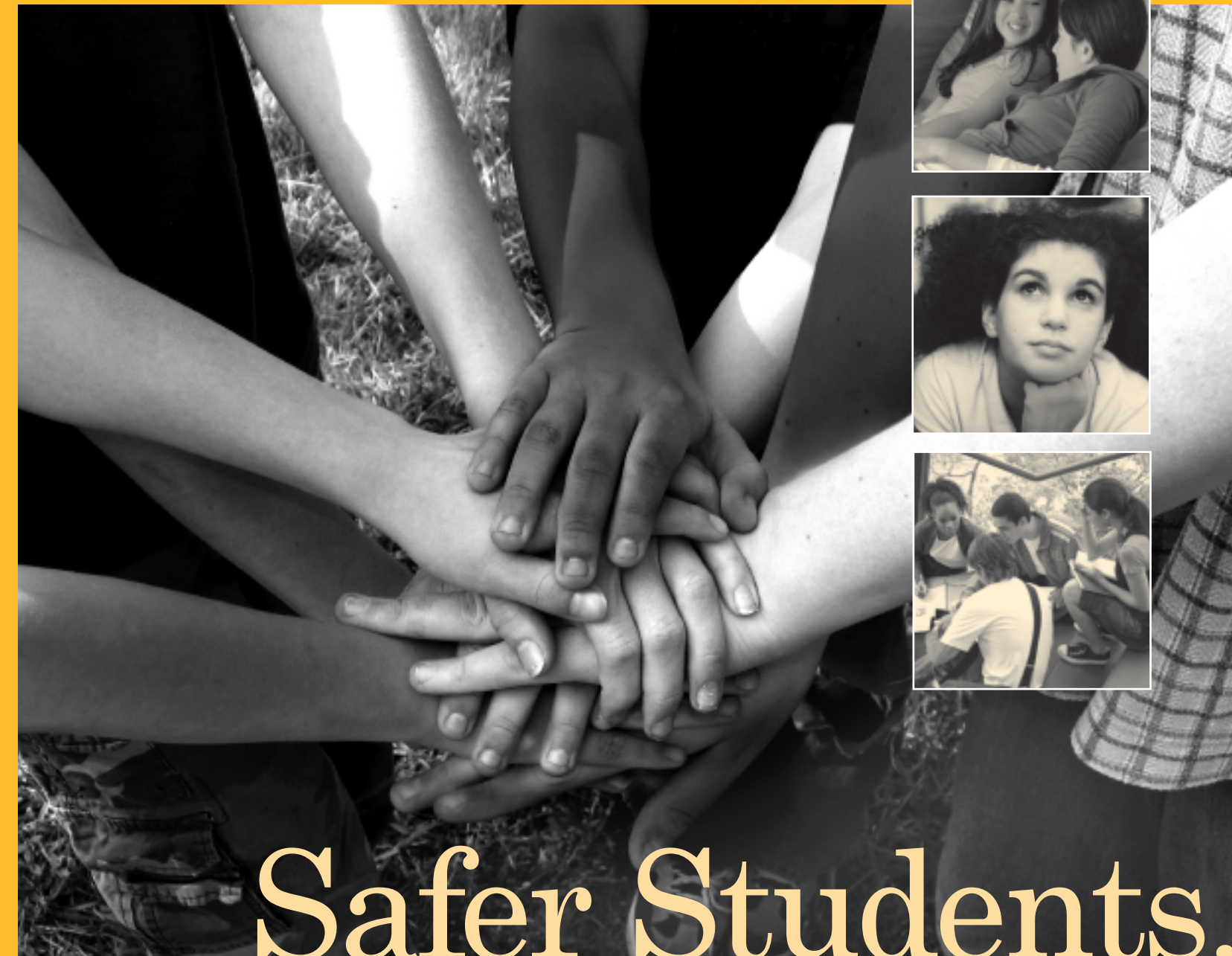
Case for Financial Support

safe2tellSM

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Safer Students.
Safer Schools.

Safer Students.
Safer Schools.



Columbine High School, West Nickel Mines Amish School, Platte Canyon High School...

these are synonymous with the horrors, realities and challenges that schools face in making safer schools, and safer communities. Despite the magnitude and gruesome outcome in these cases, there are cases all across the United States away from the public eye but equally as threatening.

Drug and alcohol abuse, weapons, fights, suicide threats, bullying are synonymous with precursors to greater threats and violence in schools. Such events – ranging from fire starting and graffiti to sexual abuse and drunk driving – if identified early and with proper intervention, can be prevented from becoming even bigger threats to students, to schools, to communities.

Now is the time to empower students, teachers, parents and administrators to partner with community initiatives that are about awareness and prevention. Safe2Tell is committed to truly reaching out and working with our education system to provide safe schools and safe communities.

Here are some facts:

Other people knew about attacks in schools before they took place in three out of every four instances. Approximately 60 percent of boys who were characterized as bullies in grades 6-9 had at least one conviction by the age of 24. One in every six students report carrying a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on one or more of the past 30 days.

Today, there is a dueling environment between violence prevention and a culture of silence. According to the Columbine Review Commission of 2001, students continue to be reluctant to come forward with information in advance of many instances of school violence.

Enter Safe2Tell. This non-profit originally formed in 2003 as part of the 501(c)(3) Crime Stoppers organization. With a focus on what truly is best for the students and schools of Colorado, and beyond, Safe2Tell received seed funding from The Colorado Trust. Now, in partnership with local, state and national organizations, Safe2Tell empowers individuals to anonymously report violent or troubling events. It is about prevention, not reaction. It is about safe students and safe schools. Today, Safe2Tell asks you to be a part of the \$1,000,000 “Safer Students, Safer Schools” campaign. Here’s why...

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Story2Tell...How Safe2Tell works

Safe2Tell was formed as a 501(c)(3) non-profit, governed by a volunteer board, with a statewide, twenty four hour per day hotline as its core program. Unlike many call centers or toll-free hotlines, Safe2Tell tips are answered and dispersed by the Colorado State Patrol Communications Center. Individual anonymity is statutorily guaranteed in the State of Colorado.

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The calls are cared for, nurtured, documented and handled by trained professionals in the law enforcement field. Each and every tip is assigned a code, dispersed to appropriate school officials and/or law enforcement, and then tracked and monitored. The impact is alarmingly positive for a topic that is alarmingly negative.

Eighty three percent (83%) of all Safe2Tell incidents have had positive intervention outcomes reported by school staff, parents and resource officers.

Message2Tell... The Program overview

Because kids – as well as parents and teachers – often know about troubling events before they occur, Safe2Tell’s prevention model works. Students, teachers, parents and others can call the toll free number to report threats, fights, bullying, substance abuse, or other activities and know that no matter the day, no matter the time, the call will be handled by trained experts in school safety, crisis communication, and preventive intervention

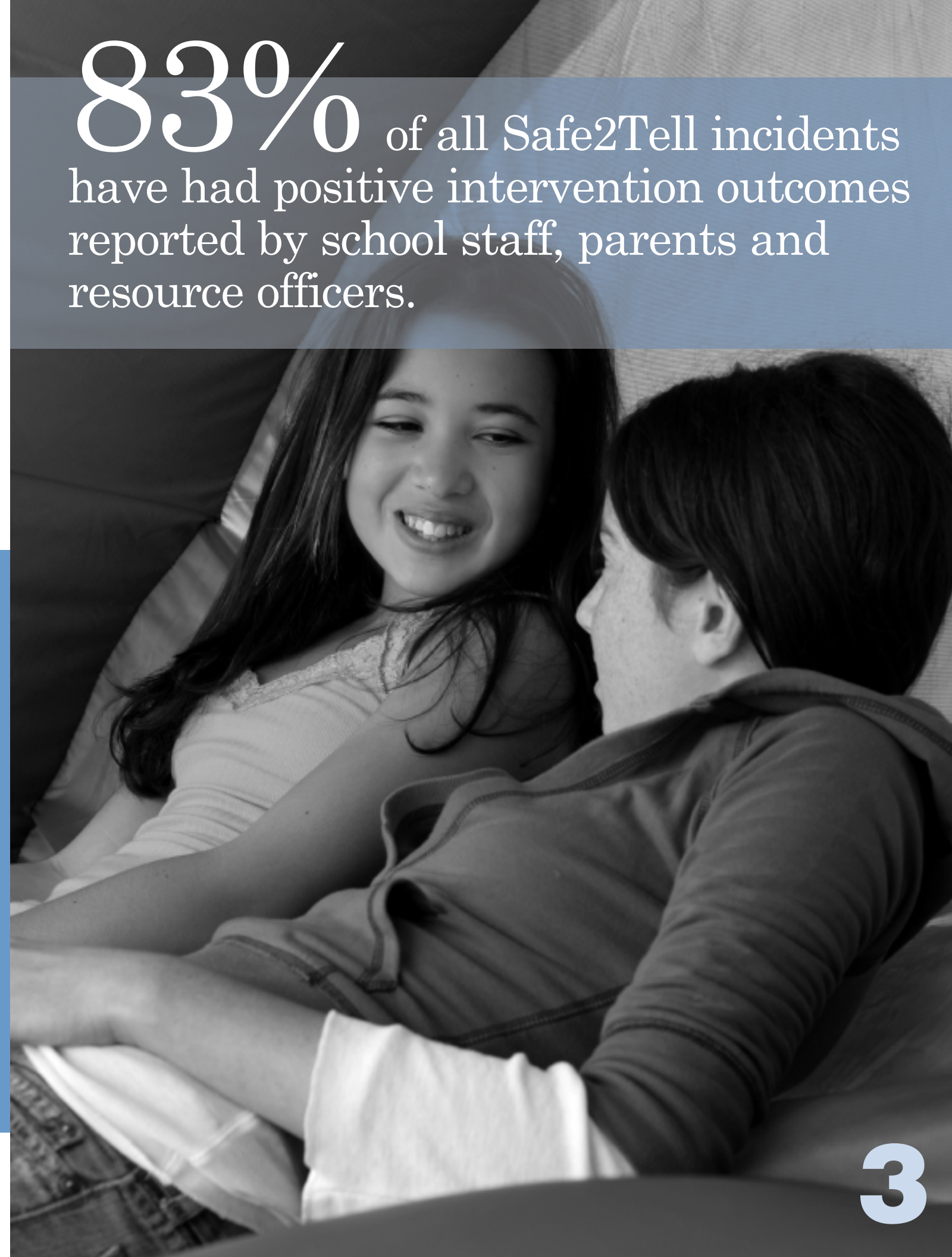
And it makes a difference...

“Early intervention is critical in the life of a child who is exhibiting behaviors identified as precursors to violence. Safe2Tell provides a tool to intervene in a proactive way.”
Dr. Delbert Elliott, Director of The University of Colorado’s Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence

“The value of anonymous tips and evidence can not be understated. Statistics show that suicides, vandalism, assaults are indeed deterred and prevented as a result of Safe2Tell’s model program.”
Don Quick, Safe2Tell board member and District Attorney, 17th Judicial District of Colorado

“The fear of retaliation and a code of silence common to student culture often inhibit students from coming forward with information in advance of violent or criminal events. Safe2Tell provides an anonymous means of communication and helps break that code of silence.”
Susan R.T. Payne, Safe2Tell Executive Director

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Initiatives2Tell

Education. Prevention. Awareness.

Our Core Values.

Safe2Tell prides itself on being a multi-faceted program rather than a one-way reporting system or one dimensional program. In fact, Safe2Tell has grown into a four-fold initiative that involves teachers, administrators, parents, students, volunteers, and the law enforcement through the following mechanisms.

1 Outreach: This allows schools, teen centers, youth groups and others to request presentations. Experts in law enforcement and school safety provide an interactive program that not only inform, but engages those in the audience.

2 Communications: Spreading the word about the hotline's availability is the key to its success. In addition to outreach and presentations, growing initiatives that include: a revamped website, a quarterly newsletter, multiple radio and tv interviews and myriad novelty items. These are helping share the success of Safe2Tell and its key role in the prevention of school violence and related activity. Additionally, myriad novelty items such as ID lanyards, glow in the dark bracelets, posters are available as handouts. A new public service announcement is under production as well.

3 Training: Safe2Tell would not be successful were it not for the intensive, one-of-a-kind training provided by nationally recognized law enforcement educators. Key to the program is the training of state patrol personnel to answer the hotline 24/7. Further training is also provided to teachers, principals and other school administrators as it relates to hotline response and management.

4 Public Affairs and Advocacy: The newest initiative of Safe2Tell involves making intervention tools like the call center and hotline a much higher local, State and Federal priority. In addition to ensuring government funds for the program, the public affairs initiative impacts legislative reform that can enhance the productivity, efficiency and impact of such a program. Concurrently, advocacy will build a grassroots awareness of Safe2Tell and knock down any barriers to its growth and replication nationally.

“No student should fear retaliation because he or she sees a frightening or challenging situation that may lead to violence.”

Vision2Tell...Why Colorado Needs Safe2Tell

No parent, no sibling, no classmate, no teacher should go through the tragedy of a school killing – whether suicidal or homicidal. No student should fear retaliation because he or she sees a frightening or challenging situation that may lead to violence. No school should be turned away from awareness programs, training protocol and outreach activities that empower people to think preventatively.

In order to return to the days of safe students, safe schools...even safe communities...the prevention of school violence – in any form – must be an inherent priority. From attorneys general and surgeons general to principals and parents, the message is clear: safety, safety, safety. In the case of Safe2Tell, prevention is the vital ingredient to a safer society.

For too long we have depended on a reactive model to bullying, violence, drug abuse and more. As this nation looks to enhancing education, preventing crime and lowering accidental death and injury, Safe2Tell is ready to launch pilot programs in outreach, education, government relations and communications alongside enhancement of its top quality 1-800 call center.

Courage2Tell...Some case studies

In 2006 in Ft. Collins, Colorado a group of girls* wanted to speak out against some peers' behavior including some suspicious behavior and unsafe acts. The girls feared being harassed and ostracized by this group to the point that they would miss school. As a result of Safe2Tell, the anonymous call from the girls led to intervention thereby alleviating the high risk situations.

A call came in during a recent school party in urban Colorado reporting use of illicit drugs, weapons, and even suicidal dialogue. Safe2Tell hotline received a call including the following dialogue, “I don't want to violate my friend's party and trust, but I need help.” The trained state patrol officer who took the call coordinated the dispatch and the party ended peacefully and without accusation. Follow up reports point to the prevention of at least one suicide.

Case and point...the community has, and always will be, our top priority and our proud history.

Be a part of our initiative: safer students. safer schools.

*Due to the nature of confidentiality, names and locations are withheld.

United States Secret Service
Olweus, D. (2003). A profile of bullying at school. Educational Leadership, 60(6), 12-17.
Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2003)

Partner2Tell... Why Safe2Tell Needs YOU

Safe2Tell is proud of its ongoing and growing partnerships – in kind and financial. The honor role of partners includes:

- Academic and independent research institutes
- Non-profit organizations in advocacy, health and education
- Foundations
- Professional societies
- Individual donors
- Corporations

As Safe2Tell grows, all four initiatives – outreach, communications, training and advocacy – will provide key partner opportunities [Appendices A thru C: Partner application, partner definitions and partner opportunities.]