



## SISTERS of CHARITY FOUNDATION OF CANTON

focused

intentional

giving

February 2015

### Olweus Successes Continue

As implementation of the [Olweus Bullying Prevention Program](#) continues, it appears that schools are maintaining a high degree of fidelity to the Olweus model, and student, teacher, and district commitment remain strong. The Stark County Educational Service Center and the Stark County parochial schools have spearheaded this countywide effort to prevent bullying.

Olweus is the most extensively researched bullying prevention program available today. When properly implemented, this whole-school program engages and unites students, staff, parents, and the community in preventing bullying. The program is now being implemented in 29 Stark County public and parochial schools that serve more than 11,000 students. The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton provided start-up support for the program, and ongoing support has come from both the Sisters of Charity and Stark Community foundations.

To gauge the effect of the program's implementation, focus groups were conducted with administrators, teachers, students, and parents. Seventy-six pages of transcripts were processed from those focus group discussions. In addition, more than 6,000 students were surveyed, as were the teachers in all Olweus schools.

The results indicated a decrease in the number of bullying incidents, a decrease in the percentage of students "telling no one" about bullying they'd witnessed, and an increase in the percentage of students telling someone (a teacher, parent, sibling, or friend) about an incident of bullying they'd experienced or witnessed. Nearly all (90%) of the teachers reported that they are committed to the bullying prevention program, and only one out of 229 teachers surveyed said that he or she did not intervene when they witnessed bullying behavior.



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### Tooth Fairy Helps Give Canton Kids a Smile

Once again this year, the Tooth Fairy visited Canton City elementary schools to remind children of the importance of good oral health habits. She led the students as they pledged to brush for two minutes, twice a day and reminded them to have their parents sign permission slips to allow participation in this year's *Give Kids a Smile Day* on February 6th.



On *Give Kids a Smile Day*, dentists throughout the country volunteer to provide oral health screenings and education to 450,000 underserved children. Screening children is crucial, because more than 16 million American children have untreated tooth decay. Canton elementary students will receive dental screenings; at

three schools, the children will also receive a visit from Colgate's Mobile Dental Van, a functioning dental office on wheels specially designed to help children feel comfortable and educate them about caring for their teeth.

Children returning permission slips will receive dental-themed goody bags. The school with the highest percentage of students returning their slips will win a pizza party for all students. The promotional materials were made possible by donations from Delta Dental and the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton.

**Grant Application Process Workshop** Participants will learn about our grantmaking strategies, proposal guidelines, and application process. Foundation staff members will be on hand to answer questions.

Tuesday, April 14, 2015 9:00-10:30 a.m.  
First Floor Conference Room  
400 Market Avenue North, Canton, Ohio 44702

To register, please contact Liz Ford at 330-454-5800 or [lford@scfcanton.org](mailto:lford@scfcanton.org)



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*A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System*