



# EMPOWER, GROW, THRIVE

## STUDENT SERVICES CONNECTION NEWS

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### September Monthly Happenings

In September, a new program was introduced to all students in 3rd-8th grade called the Care Closet. The Care Closet has basic need items available for all students free of cost if they are in need. Students were given a lesson based off of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs emphasizing that we cannot reach our fullest potential when basic needs are not met. Students have begun using the closet and some have even donated to it. It has helped promote self advocacy and empathy! Students in PreK- 2nd grade can also access the care closet upon request.

### Our Mission

Our mission is to help students develop and manage their social-emotional learning by educating, advocating, and empowering them to remove barriers to their success and become their own problem solvers.

### September Data

Student Self Referrals: 22  
Staff Referrals: 26  
Parent Referrals: 6  
Classroom Visits: 6  
Groups Completed: 6



### Tips on how to talk about Bullying at Home

- Help them define bullying.
  - Often times students confuse bullying with other relational conflict. A bully is someone who intentionally tries to harm someone over a consistent period of time in order to gain control or power.
- Teach your child how to be assertive. Encourage your children to express their feelings clearly, say no when they feel uncomfortable or pressured, stand up for themselves without fighting and walk away in dangerous situations.
- Empower them to take a stand.
  - Come up with a plan to stand up to bullying. Tell your child to take action when they see bullying behavior. Tell them to speak out against the bully and inform a teacher if the behavior doesn't stop. Bullying continues only when we allow it to.
    - If they are not comfortable speaking up, encourage them to reach out for support. Talk to them about who their support system can be. ( Parents, Staff Members, Friends, Etc.)

### Resource spotlight: Safe2Help

Safe2Help Illinois is a 24/7 program where students can use a free app, text/phone, and website ([Safe2HelpIllinois.com](http://Safe2HelpIllinois.com)) to share information on school safety issues in a confidential environment.

- 844-4-SAFEIL
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