

The History of Blue

Blue was born from the voices of the students in the program. The facilitators had purchased many posters and visuals to help set a tone in our leadership room at a local elementary school. One of the posters had several cartoon-like faces of varying colors on it who were “acting foolish”—*that is all but one*—the blue face was calm and smiling. The caption at the bottom of the poster read “Courage is doing right when everyone around you is doing wrong” the students ran with that concept—to them the

blue face on that poster was true leadership.

They began answering our questions of...

“What would a leader do?” or “How does a leader act?” with the answer...be like blue. With

that Blue was born. *The children see the Blue as someone to look up to, a role model to act like, behave like and believe in.* With it the students began to believe that it was possible for them to be the person that listens, respects others, and makes good choices even when no one else around them is. *Blue is their symbol for what a leader should be...strong, courageous, nonviolent, positive, and doing what is right.*



“Every Thursday I
wake up at 6a.m.
because I know
that it is leadership
group day”

2nd grader

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Center for Nonviolence

Presents the...

FACES
Leadership Program

A school-based program that uncovers the potential in nontraditional leaders.



FACES Leadership Program

Transforming the image of Leadership
Proving that ANYONE can become a leader!

The FACES Leadership Program is a school-based program that offers disadvantaged youth ages kindergarten—5th grade a transformative 21 week-long program that teaches and inspires them to develop the leader within – to transform the image of leadership through conflict resolution – one student...one school...one community at a time. The program is designed to create a leadership team who will eventually change the culture in their school by turning students who struggle with issues of bullying and defiance into students who are leading their peers and their school through positive peer interactions and involvement.

What makes our program truly unique is that we take *a small group of students that by “normal” standards would not be seen as leaders by themselves, their teachers, their parents, or the community and inspire them to develop the leader within.*

Sessions are full of engaging hands-on, interactive, multi-sensory learning and reality-based activities. This method allows the students to practice nonviolent negotiation and conflict resolution skills in a safe reality-based format so that those skills are more readily transferable to their everyday lives.

The program provides students with an outlet to discuss:

Bullying, revenge, anger, dangerous thinking, violence, peer pressure, etc.

And turning it around to focus more on :

Goal setting, positive role modeling, leadership skills, positive thinking, positive self-talk, etc.

BEFORE

Fifth-grade student whose original goal was to get kicked out of the school and our program.

“A person who helps others”

AFTER

Completed program as one of our **BIGGEST** leaders who helped encourage his younger peers.



“I know I want to change now...now I see how mean I was being.”

“I think to myself...if they picked me to be a leader...then I am supposed to be a leader.”

BEFORE

A kindergarten student who was quiet, reserved and most times went unnoticed

AFTER

She became a confident leader who helped remind her peers to use the skills

“Blue will be good when everyone else is bad”

Impact & Results

98% of students agreed that the program helped them

98% of teachers felt their school benefited from the program

She took the training to heart and did develop her voice. She spoke up even when it was hard to do in front of her peers. She would seek out ways to work well with other students.



-2nd grade teacher

“Blue respects you even when he is upset”

100% of parents agreed that their child benefited from the program

100% of students believed they ARE a positive leader

