

# “Creating a Positive, Bully-Free School Climate”

A workshop for professionals with *Dr. Larry Epstein*

March 16, 2012

9:00am-12:00pm

SUNY Oneonta - Hunt Union Ballroom

**\$50 per agency/school registering 5 or fewer at the same time**

**\$100 per agency/school registering 6 or more at the same time**

**Registration will close no later than February 28, 2012**

Larry Epstein, Ph.D., is the Director of School-Based Services for Think:Kids at Massachusetts General Hospital. He is also an Assistant in Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at MGH and Clinical Instructor in Psychology in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School. Prior to joining the Think:Kids team, Dr. Epstein worked for the Cherry Creek School District in Denver, Colorado for 17 years, during which time he helped develop the district's intensive treatment program for students with significant behavioral challenges. He is a nationally certified bully prevention trainer and helped found the non-profit organization Creating Caring Communities, where he served as Board President. Dr. Epstein published one of the first research articles demonstrating the effectiveness of the Bully-Proofing Your School program and co-wrote a chapter on sustainability of bullying prevention programs for the 2010 *Handbook of Bullying in Schools: An International Perspective*. Dr. Epstein also spent several years as a classroom teacher, teaching social-emotional skills to students in a general education setting.

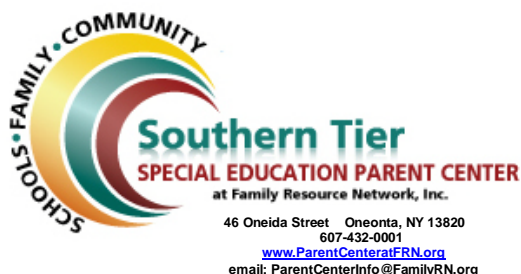
## Workshop Overview

The Southern Tier Special Education Parent Center at Family Resource Network is pleased to offer this workshop featuring Dr. Larry Epstein, renowned bullying prevention trainer.

Several national incidents involving bullying have shown the damaging and sometimes fatal effect that bullying can have on students whether they are in elementary, middle or high school. In New York State, bullying in schools is being addressed through the Dignity for All Act (The Dignity Act). The Dignity Act was signed into law on September 13, 2010 and takes effect on July 1, 2012. By participating in this workshop, participants will be better able to define bullying, develop skills to create a bully prevention program and learn how to more effectively intervene to help both the child being bullied as well as the bully.

### Objectives:

- Define bullying – including physical, verbal, social and cyber aggression and harassment.
- Discuss the NYS Dignity for All Act and the roles and responsibilities of schools, professionals, parents and the community.
- Help participants design a school-wide program which supports a bully-free school climate where students have safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and/or at a school functions. This will include information on the *Think:Kids'* approach, for students who do not respond to universal programming.
- Discuss individualized interventions for the bullied and the bully, including children with special needs.



**To Register:** One person from each school/agency must register attendees **at the same time** to qualify for the discounted rate. Please send an email to: [Register@FamilyRN.org](mailto:Register@FamilyRN.org) and include the names of all participants as well as your intended method of payment (Check, Purchase Order)  
*For more information call Nancy @ 607-432-0001*