



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

June 3, 2013

Mr. Douglas Wain
Executive Director
Win the War! Against Violence
P.O. Box 11037
Lexington, KY 40512

Dear Mr. Wain,

Thank you for your recent meeting with me to express your concerns about youth violence and to discuss your thoughts on how to address it. I appreciated learning about your organization's work in this regard, and sharing of information about new projects such as the "Youth Violence Prevention Challenge."

While we have made significant strides in our efforts to prevent youth violence, we understand that unfortunately this problem remains a serious issue facing many of our students, schools, and communities. The U.S. Department of Education provides funding and other resources to educators, community-based organizations, and other agencies to promote effective programs and strategies designed to address school and community violence, address youth substance abuse, and promote healthy schools and students.

On April 10, 2013 President Obama released his Fiscal Year 2014 budget. The President requested \$280 million in 2014 for the proposed Successful, Safe, and Healthy Students (SSHS) program. A key priority for 2014 is proposed funding, under the National Activities portion of the SSHS authority, for school safety activities included in Now is the Time, the President's plan to protect our children and our communities by reducing gun violence.

I thank you and your organization for the work being done to find a solution to this problem of youth violence. If we are to succeed, we must involve everyone -- parents, students, teachers, law enforcement, business, faith organizations, and others in the community -- in the creation of safe schools and communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "N. Dickard".

Norris E. Dickard
Healthy Students Group Leader

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