



Catherine Dunbar
BasicNecessities, Inc.
P.O. Box 1167
Livermore, CA 94551
(925) 424-1212
cdunbar@basicnecessities.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUST OUT BULLYING

Tri-Valley Anti-Bullying Campaign Scores with Giants Community Fund

LIVERMORE, CA – SEPT. 3, 2011-- A Tri-Valley non-profit has received a \$10,000 grant from the San Francisco Giants Community Fund to establish an anti-bullying program with Livermore students. Basicnecessities.org, based in Livermore, was awarded the grant in an on-field ceremony held at AT&T Park in San Francisco prior to the September 3 Giants game.

Basicnecessities.org Director Catherine Suarez-Dunbar, along with invitee Melanie Lopez of Livermore, took the field along with other grant recipients, survivors of violence, representatives of organizations committed to stopping violence in our communities and winners of the Junior Giants Imagine Peace contest. The ceremony was a part of the Giants annual Strike Out Violence Day, which is supported by the Giants Community Fund, the San Francisco Sheriff's Department and the Family Violence Prevention Fund.

"That was quite a thrill being on the field," said Suarez Dunbar, who is also a Spanish instructor at Las Positas College. "But it's even more of a thrill to get our Bust Out Bullying program up and running thanks to the Giants Community Fund's generous support."

Bust Out Bullying aims to educate children between the ages of 5 and 14 about traditional bullying and cyber-bullying through a series of workshops, demonstrations and readings. In addition to addressing children, Bust Out Bullying will also work with teachers and other school staff, as well as parents. Potential participants will be indentified through the schools and the Junior Giants program of Livermore.

"Bullying has been a problem forever," said Suarez-Dunbar. "On the one hand, society has gotten better at identifying bullying and devising ways to address it. On the other hand, new technologies have give rise to new forms of cyber bullying that we still have to catch up with. Also, while physical threats, especially associated with boys, is pretty well-known, other seemingly non-violent bullying that is just as, if not more, damaging, is often perpetrated by and among girls. These are lesser known areas of bullying that we want to explore and intervene in."

To find out more about Busting Out Bullying or to make a donation to the program, you can go online to basicnecessities.org or contact Suarez-Dunbar at (925) 424-1212.