

Mayor's Youth Leadership Council

Youth Services Bureau, Stamford, Connecticut

Body Art Photos

Raising awareness of teen dating violence is a major element of the Mayor's Youth Leadership Council's (MYLC) campaign about this stubborn public health issue. Stubborn? You bet. Since 2003 Connecticut has ranked among the top ten states in the nation that report such violence.

MYLC's public awareness campaign is defined by unique, eye-catching activities. There's the Balloon Garden, which includes hundreds of helium filled balloons that we plant in the main hallway of Stamford High School. The Chairs Project includes scores of chairs lined up in an open space, with each chair representing a victim of dating violence. And then there's the Freeze Project, an improv activity that you have no doubt seen on You Tube.

But it's our body art photos that attract the most attention. Taken by two members of MYLC (Andrea Soto and Dorit Burshtein), the photos are arresting images of members who have written words, slogans, and statistics about teen dating violence on their arms, faces and hands. The black and white photos are turned into huge posters, which are displayed at schools, businesses and other locations.

Members staff each exhibit and distribute literature to passers-by. A great example was the exhibit at the Ferguson library on March 12-13. In three hours we distributed dating violence prevention cards to 219 people.

Let's us know if you want to host our body art exhibit.

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For more information, please contact:
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