

IMPACT REPORT



2023



To All of Our Partners in this Work

Since the COVID-19 pandemic and extended school closures, returning to classrooms and campuses hasn't been easy. Like many organizations doing prevention work, we've faced slowdowns, limited access, and new challenges in reaching students where they are. But if this work has taught us anything, it's how to be resilient.

This year, we've begun to regain ground, reconnecting with schools, reactivating student clubs, and relaunching in-person trainings that have been on hold since the start of the pandemic. Step by step, we're rebuilding our presence where it matters most: with young people, in real time, in their schools and communities.

We're so grateful to all of our supporters, funders, educators, parents, and student leaders who stuck with us, believed in this work, and helped carry it forward.

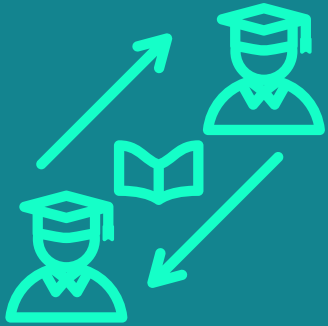
And we're especially excited to share something new: our latest evaluation results from SafeBAE 360, our whole-school model that brings together student leadership, school policy, and trusted adult engagement in a coordinated approach to prevention.

Thank you for being part of this work — and part of this movement.

— The SafeBAE Team



2023 By The Numbers



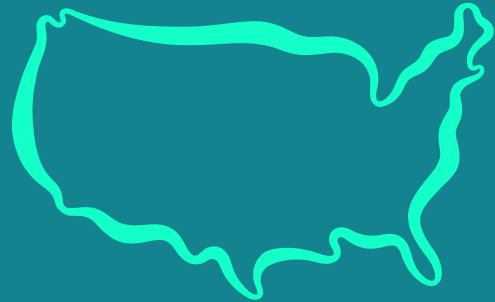
**196 Peer Educators
Trained**



**110 Policy Reform
Guides Used**



**47 Local
Club Chapters**



**6.2 Million
People Reached**



**38,000+ In-Person
Participants**

These numbers reflect our national reach and local, community impact. These reflect our direct work with students, schools, and community organizations in-person and virtually.

Where We've Been

Growing Our Roots in Rhode Island & Beyond

In 2023, working under the Rhode Island Department of Health's RPE grant, we made powerful strides in deepening our local impact — reaching more schools than we ever imagined and establishing SafeBAE as a key prevention partner in the region.

We delivered in-person programming at over 20 schools across Rhode Island, reaching more than 7,250 students face-to-face through assemblies, classroom sessions, and workshops.

We also partnered with the Coordinated Community Response (CCR) team at Sojourner House through their OVW grant to support prevention efforts at **Woonsocket High School** and **Smithfield High School**, contributing resources, posters, and content to strengthen school-based education and accountability structures.

This year reinforced what's possible when prevention is embedded early and locally. In 2024, we look forward to building on this success as we expand direct programming in New York — our next regional hub.

National & Regional Presentations

This year, we also presented at a number of conferences and professional gatherings, helping shape the conversation around youth leadership, mental health, and violence prevention. In total, we reached over 5,000 people through these presentations.

Annual Comprehensive Health Education Conference | *Maine Family Planning*

- *Prevention Education and Culture Change through Youth Leadership*

NEARI Annual Conference | *National Education Association Rhode Island*

- *Solutions for Preventing and Responding to Student Sexual Violence*

LEAD Spark Conference | *National Honors Society*

- *Creating a Culture of Consent in Schools: Youth-Led Dating Violence Prevention, Response & School Policy Reform*

Looking Ahead

Rhode Island has become our regional hub, and this year proved what's possible when we're given the opportunity to go deep — not just wide. In 2024, we'll be building on this success by expanding our direct programming in New York, with the goal of scaling SafeBAE 360 and strengthening school partnerships across the state.

2023 Summer Institute

Our second year of expert training for student leaders



- 5 College Student Mentors to plan, execute & mentor high school student participants
- A beautiful & safe oceanside campus location (Southern Maine Community College)
- 25 students from 14 states
- An incredible curation of learning sessions led by experts in the fields of abuse prevention, youth leadership & mental health
- Yoga on the beach & lighthouse walk
- Mentorship for participants in the creation of proposals to continue their work in their schools & communities
- Follow up feedback from students in their successes & barriers

SafeBAE 360 Schools

SafeBAE's full spectrum approach to engaging school communities in transformative culture, curriculum, practice, and policy change has impacted so many schools in the 2 years since we launched!

By framing teen dating violence prevention as a mental health intervention, we have been able to write grants and partner with several school districts to implement solutions that fit their individual school's needs. Each school begins where they most see the need for support and expands their programming as needed. Our goal is to provide school communities and staff with solutions that will sustain this work long after our support in initial implementation.



Partner Schools

- Rhode Island Nurses Institute Middle College Charter HS
- Paul Cuffee Charter HS (RI)
- Portland Public Schools (ME)
- Brunswick Public Schools (ME)
- South Kingstown Public Schools (RI)
- Harvard Westlake (CA)
- Central Catholic HS (MA)

360° SCHOOLS PILOT DATA

RHODE ISLAND NURSES INSTITUTE

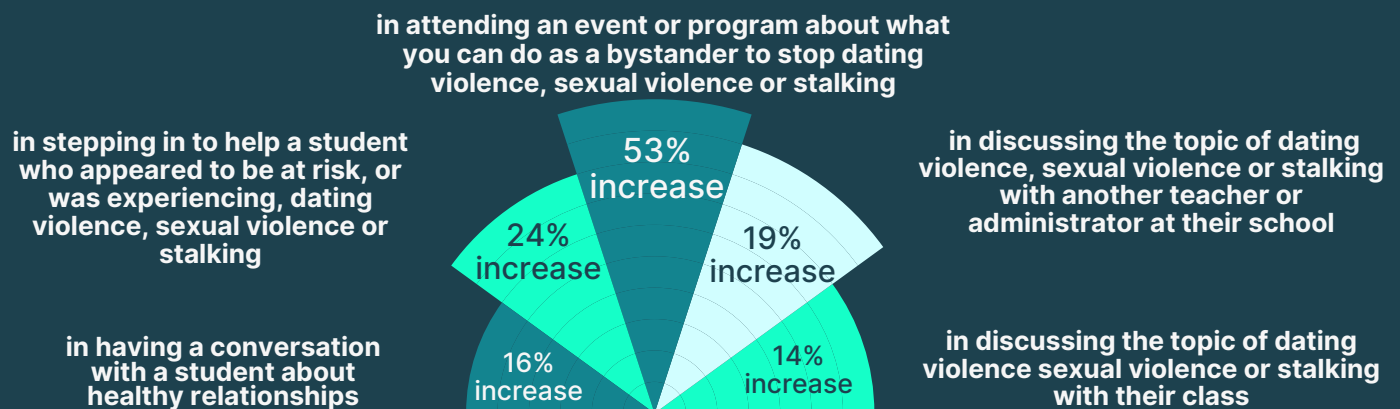
PAUL CUFFEE CHARTER SCHOOL

In collaboration with Lindsey Orchowski at Brown University, SafeBAE evaluated our program delivery at Rhode Island partner schools to track the impact on teachers' and young people's abilities to understand, respond to, and prevent sexual violence.

STUDENT IMPACT

Young people who took part in SafeBAE's programs were **more prepared to engage in bystander intervention when they witnessed harmful or potentially harmful actions.**

- **23%** increase in participants attending an event or program about what you can do as a bystander to stop dating violence, sexual violence or stalking
- **18%** increase in participants knowing how to find school policies about dating violence, sexual violence or stalking or been given a copy of the policies
- **17%** increase in participants having a conversation with a teacher or administrator at my school about healthy relationships
- **10%** increase in participants discussing the topic of dating violence, sexual violence or stalking with another student in their school
- **10%** less likely to describe barriers to bystander intervention that would inhibit them from intervening if they saw harm occurring.
- **5%** increase in participants having a conversation with another student about healthy relationships



EDUCATOR IMPACT

Teachers who took part in SafeBAE's programs were **more likely to believe that their school policies could protect students from violence and thoroughly respond if violence occurs.**

- **15%** more teachers were likely to believe that students at their school would believe survivors of sexual violence following our programming.
- **9.4%** more teachers were likely to believe that teachers and administrators would support survivors of sexual violence following our programming.

Taken collectively, our evaluation suggests that our uniquely intergenerational programs help young people and teachers become prepared to utilize interpersonal and administrative methods to support survivors of sexual violence.

Partner Perspective: Portland Public Schools

A systems-level partnership advancing prevention and student wellbeing

“The partnership with SafeBAE has been immensely helpful to the Portland Public Schools in multiple ways. First, we know from experience what the data in the recent *CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey* report reveal, namely that teenagers, especially girls and LGBTQ+ young people, are experiencing an alarming increase in violence, mental and emotional distress, and suicide risk. The need for trauma-informed support and education on healthy boundaries and care for self and others is urgent. SafeBAE staff have been working closely with instructors at multiple schools to develop more robust and meaningful consent education, while also assisting efforts to empower students to be change-makers. We are grateful for their expertise in helping the district address the very concerns raised by the CDC report.

In addition to such programmatic support, **SafeBAE has also been instrumental in bolstering our systemic work.** PPS recently overhauled the district's policies and procedures for addressing discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment, to be more trauma-informed. SafeBAE is helping us lean into these commitments by working with the school-based liaisons who are central to our new reporting and support structure. **SafeBAE's direct engagement with liaisons is enabling us to build essential skills for identifying what students need to be safe and well and to connect students with resources for long-term support.** Moreover, the district's new policy prioritizes the implementation of accountability practices whereby students learn what is necessary to take responsibility for repairing harm and preventing its recurrence. Access to SafeBAE's self-guided accountability training has been an important tool for us in putting these intentions into practice.

The partnership between SafeBAE and the Portland Public Schools is one that makes a lot of sense because of our shared commitment to be adaptive in how we meet the particular needs of young people today. With the wide-ranging pressures that school district's face, it is an extraordinary benefit to be able to rely on the expertise of an organization that is on the cutting edge of transformative work. **We are lucky to be able to count on SafeBAE and would wish the same for other districts. They are building a model of support for schools and districts that can be scaled up to make a broad impact, which is both exciting and urgently necessary.”**

***- Tyler Schwaller, Student Equity Officer & Title IX Coordinator
for Portland Public Schools***

Media & Press

Youth-Led Prevention in the News

This year, SafeBAE's voice reached even wider — through podcasts, interviews, and national media coverage that amplified our mission, our youth leaders, and the urgent need for survivor-centered, school-based prevention. Whether in the classroom or on the mic, we're helping shape how the world talks about consent, care, and culture change.

Podcast Features

Totally Preventable Podcast (Newport County Prevention Coalition)

Youth Leadership Around Sexual & Dating Violence

This episode features a deep dive into the power of peer-led education and how SafeBAE is training a new generation of prevention leaders across the country.



A Moment with Erik Fleming *A Conversation with SafeBAE*

This conversation explores SafeBAE's origins, national reach, and how our model is transforming both youth leadership and policy awareness.

In the News

SafeBAE: Breaking Barriers One School at a Time The Justice (Brandeis University)

SafeBAE Clubs in Maine Schools Are Helping Students Prevent Sexual Assault News Center Maine

Torrey DeVitto Talks SafeBAE & Youth Empowerment HELLO! Magazine

Longtime SafeBAE board member and actress Torrey DeVitto shares how she became involved with the organization and why youth-led consent education is so urgently needed.

"The work SafeBAE is doing to be so important and I love it... We'll go to over 500 schools and it's not mandatory but kids show up, and we talk about safety and then sit with them afterwards to answer questions. It's so cool getting to connect with kids like that, they are so inspiring and every time I leave them I feel more inspired, more vocal in my life and empowered myself."

Student Leader Spotlights

This year's cohort of SafeBAE Fellows brought bold ideas, deep passion, and real leadership to their schools and communities. From launching clubs and training peers to speaking at national conferences, these students continue to show what's possible when youth lead.



Alison Chang

Maryland, Age 17

Alison is passionate about feminism, philosophy, and grassroots organizing. In addition to founding a SafeBAE club in her school community, she joined our Executive Director and Programs Manager at the LEAD Spark National Honor Society Conference in Washington, D.C., where she co-led three presentations to fellow students. She shared her journey as a Fellow and encouraged participants to become Peer Educators and apply to the upcoming Summer Institute.



Dorie McNamara

Massachusetts, Age 15

Dorie worked directly with school administrators to create a SafeBAE-led orientation training for all incoming freshmen, resulting in our highest-ever sign-ups for Peer Educator Training. She also founded and serves as president of her school's SafeBAE Club, hosting awareness events throughout the year to keep prevention conversations going.



Enetu Nelson

Rhode Island, Age 15

Enetu launched and led a SafeBAE Club at Paul Cuffee Charter School in Providence, serving as club president throughout the school year. She organized school-wide assemblies and awareness events, helping spark critical conversations and connect students to support and training opportunities.

Creating Cultures of Consent

In April 2023, during **Sexual Assault Awareness Month**, SafeBAE partnered with AsskFirst, a consent-themed apparel initiative founded by Ella Fairon, to launch a digital event series titled:

Trigger Warning: Creating a Legacy of Change

This webinar series brought together survivors, educators, and advocates for honest conversations about healing, leadership, and cultural change. Featured conversations included:

- **Catherine Drysdale, Relationship Coach & Survivor Advocate**
- **Claire Courtney, Entrepreneur, Consultant, & Startup Advisor**
- **Cale Jones, Founder of MON & LGBTQ+ Advocate**

These conversations reached hundreds of students, educators, and supporters, & remain available as a growing archive of survivor-centered education beyond SAAM.

Consent Apparel with a Purpose

AsskFirst is a youth-led consent apparel brand that raises awareness, sparks dialogue, and helps fund prevention education. While independent from SafeBAE, the brand has continued to support our work through aligned collaborations and proceeds.

In 2023, AsskFirst partnered with several SafeBAE Summer Institute Fellows to co-design a limited collection of t-shirts and hats. The brand also hosted pop-up shops in New York and Los Angeles, using its platform to spotlight youth-led activism and fundraise for school-based programming.

With thousands of items sold across the country, AsskFirst is helping to build a culture of consent — one conversation (and design) at a time.



Special Thanks

To Our Funders & Corporate Partners

Our work would not be possible without the support of the foundations, agencies, coalitions, and companies that believe in youth-led prevention and invest in survivor-centered change. We are deeply grateful for your partnership.



Our Board

SafeBAE's Board is intentionally composed of at least two-thirds youth, reflecting our deep commitment to youth leadership. This structure ensures that the organization's direction remains accountable to the communities we serve, with young people playing a central role in governance, strategic planning, and decision-making.

Members of the Board

- **Len Eschweiler (Co-Chair)** | Chief Revenue Officer at Amount
- **Justine Wentzell Chang (Co-Chair)** | Author, Producer, RedBalloonStation.com
- **Aela Mansmann (Youth Co-Chair)** | College Student, Manhattanville University
- **Aidan Stark-Chessa** | College Student, Bates College
- **Emily Bach** | Co-Founder, Stories of Consent
- **Lauren Wechsler Horn** | President, Bullhorn Consulting
- **Ari Zeitlin** | Property Collections Coordinator, Sotheby's Auction House
- **Chalina Morgan-Lopez** | College Student, North Carolina State University
- **Joy Gorman Wettels** | Impact Producer, Advisor, Founder of Joy Coalition
- **Torrey DeVitto** | Actress, Activist
- **Michelle Hope** | Director of Social Impact & Strategic Communications at Siecus
- **Lillian Frame** | Paralegal at Potts-Dupre, Hawkins & Kramer, Chtd.
- **Cheyenne Tyler Jacobs** | Writer, Educator, Filmmaker
- **Samar Rafiqzad** | College Student
- **Abigail Brier** | College Student, Brandeis University
- **Theo Hutt** | College Student, Case Western Reserve University
- **Sydney Turner** | College Student, University of Illinois
- **Bella Kwok** | College Student, Temple University

