



PROVIDING CHILDREN WITH HELP AND HOPE

March 16, 2000

Honorable Howard L. Fargo
Majority Caucus Chairman
House of Representatives
121 Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

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Dear Howard:

I am writing to once again express my thanks and that of the children of The Second Mile for the Burgess Foundation's continued support. More importantly, I am writing to share our excitement and to provide you a status report about the inaugural Bob Burgess Second Mile Leadership Institute for high school students from across the Commonwealth.

As a result of your vision and support, one hundred young men and women from twenty Pennsylvania high schools will participate in this pilot from May 17 - May 20, 2000, on Penn State's University Park campus. And as a result of that participation, they will return to their home schools and communities with the leadership skills, with The Second Mile's ongoing mentorship, and with an action plan to enhance their school climate and to prevent school violence. The participating educators and youth are excited and thankful that you have chosen to support this significant project at a critical time. Rather than simply adding to the anguished speech about unsafe schools, you have provided the seed money to begin to empower our youth to create safe communities, one school district at a time: five students from different factions of each school will arrive as lone individuals but will leave as a dynamic team, ready to motivate their various peer groups to work together to create school harmony.

I invite you to join us to witness their excitement and experience firsthand the impact of the Foundation's gift. I have included the following materials to further acquaint you with our efforts: the invitation to schools, the list of participants, a detailed agenda, and the pre-conference worksheets. I would welcome your attendance at any or all portions of the Institute, and you or your staff may contact Ellen Konkle or myself to make arrangements.

On behalf of the young men and women who will participate in The Bob Burgess Second Mile Leadership Institute and all of the children you have helped through your support of The Second Mile, I again express my enormous gratitude. I am most hopeful that you and your fellow Board members will honor us with your continued support through this year's event.

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Last year, I respectfully requested a minimum of a three-year \$50,000 or more pledge to bring this program to reality and carry the Burgess name into the twenty-first century. You generously responded, and I thank you for helping save and guide young lives for Pennsylvania. Following this inaugural effort in May, we will begin to see the fruits of our partnership, as the Burgess name is carried into schools on the lips of student participants as they lead their peers in twenty different projects designed to make and keep their schools safe. With your ongoing help, we can expand these important efforts to 30 additional high schools next year and continue to extend the Burgess legacy by creating, sharing and implementing model violence-prevention efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry".

Jerry Sandusky

ENCLOSURES