

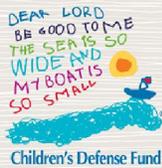


**Alternatives to Exclusionary School Discipline:**  
BEST PRACTICES FOR SCHOOL SAFETY AND STUDENT INTERACTION



**Children's Defense Fund Mission**

The Children's Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a **Healthy Start**, a **Head Start**, A **Fair Start**, a **Safe Start** and a **Moral Start** in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.



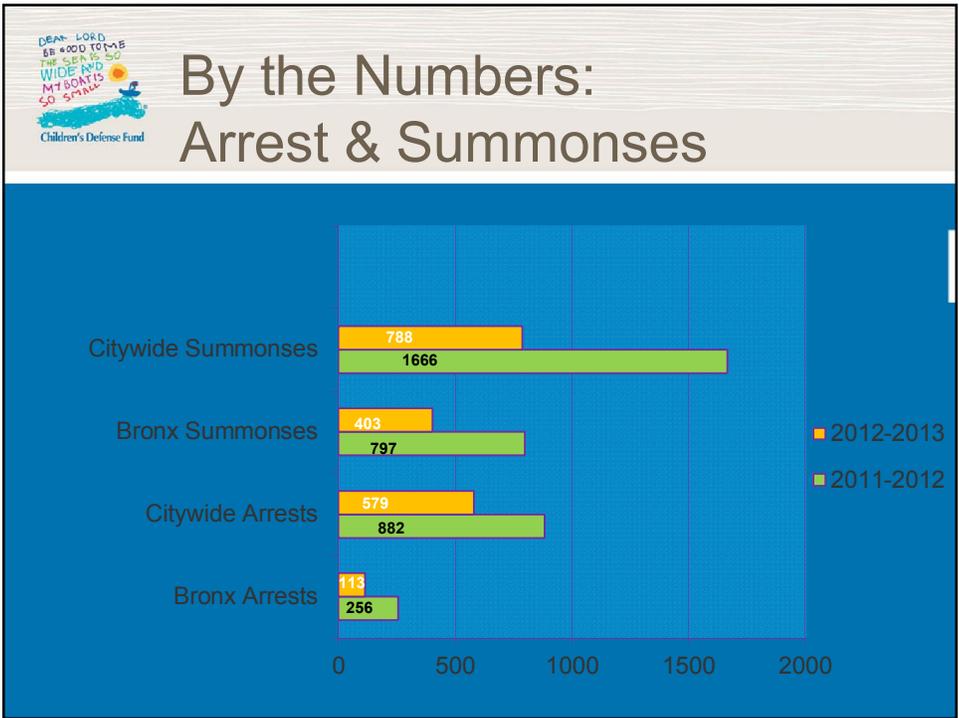
## Community-Led Workshops for SSAs: How We Got Started



## A Year in Review

- Summonses in Bronx schools represented more than 50% of all summonses in 2011-12
- Parents and students organized a “People’s Hearing” and invited the NYPD School Safety Division and Department of Education
- A collaboration began – one year later, summonses and arrests have decreased dramatically







# Overview of Community Trainings for SSAs



**Introduction**

**Part 1 – Cradle Workshop**

- Learning about racial disparities and the cradle to prison pipeline
- Experiencing an individual child’s journey through the cradle to prison pipeline with focus on discussing solutions to redirect her into a pipeline to success

**Part 2 – School Safety Agents’ Role**

- Positive example of a SSA’s impact on students/a school in the Bronx
- Where do SSAs fit on the Restorative Practices’ **Social Discipline Window**



# Overview of Community Trainings for SSAs

**Part 3 – “Who I Am Versus Who They Say I Am”**

- Discussion of who SSAs “Are”/ “Are Not” in their own words
- Share completed “Are”/“Are Not” youth chart & discuss the similarities and differences
- Where do misunderstandings (between SSAs and youth) originate?

**SSAs Are**

School Safety  
Mother/Auntie/Big Bro  
Disciplinarian  
First Responders  
\* Lord of Justice

**SSAs Are Not**

Security  
police  
\*mothers\*  
Counselors\*  
\*Grandfather\*

**Part 4 - Collateral Consequences of suspensions, summonses, arrests in schools**

**Youth Are...**

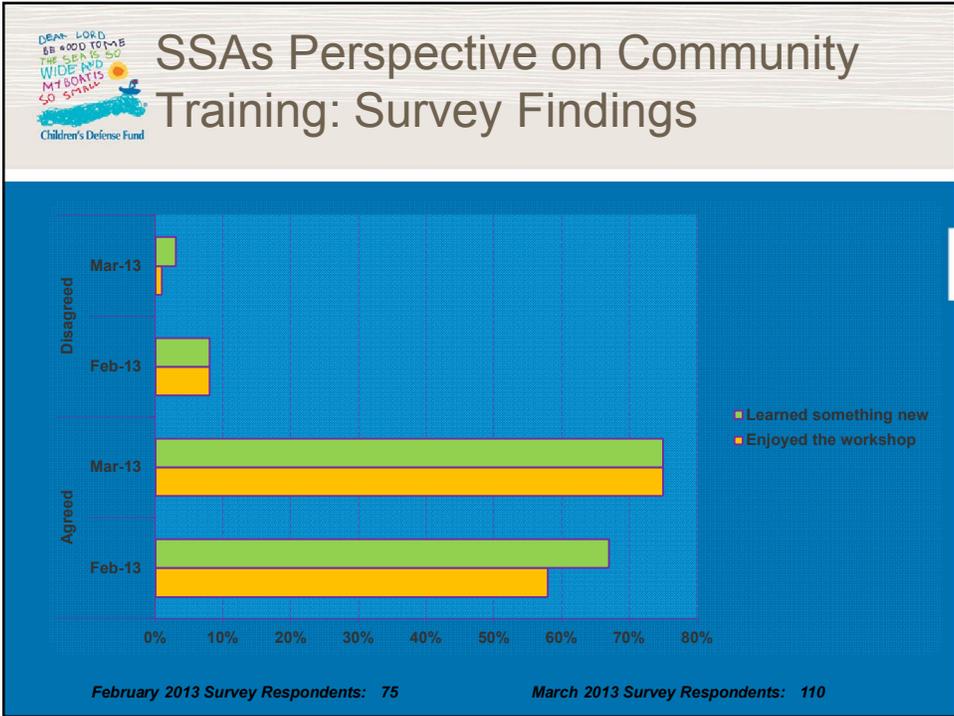
Learner  
Person  
Intelligent  
Caring  
Young Adult  
Your child, nephew, grandchild

**Youth Are Not**

Mind Reader  
A Number  
Stupid  
Perfect  
Adult  
Criminal

**Closing/Commitments**





**Most Informative Aspects of Training: Feedback from SSAs**

Children's Defense Fund

DEAN LORD  
BE GOOD TO ME  
THE SEAS IS SO  
WIDE AND  
MY BONES  
SO SPRAWL

**“Stat, providing social support, new perspectives on adolescent behaviors.” 2/6/13**

**“What everyone else deals with in their school.” 3/28/13**

**“The interaction between the agent and child. I learned when you're more supportive to the child, they listen and trust you..” 9/23/13**



## Areas of Improvement: Feedback from SSAs

“Have info from students about SSA's and how we can gain easier compliance from students.” 2/6/13

“Time, it would have been great to see more” 3/26/13

“It would of been useful if they brought [sic] in SSA to speak about their positive and negative experiences as a role model.” 9/23/13

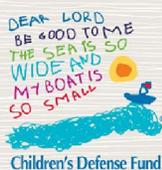


## Additional Feedback from SSAs

“I think there should be some sort of workshop for SSA and school admin. to work more w/ each other.” 2/6/13

“More training at least every 3 months.” 3/27/13

“Thank u [sic] for showing us the other side of the spectrum: "the kids side." 9/23/13



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*"Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it."*

*-Marian Wright Edelman*