BREAKING NEWS – THE ALLIANCE LAUNCHES A GOFUNDME CAMPAIGN

The Alliance has launched a GoFundMe fundraising campaign to support staff, our initiatives, and various other expenses. To contribute click on the logo below.

WWW.ENDHITTING.ORG
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Dr. George Holden, President of the Alliance, explained why. “More than 1,500 research studies have examined corporal punishment and virtually all have found that, in addition to being ineffective as discipline, corporal punishment can result in many serious problems, including increased aggression, anxiety and other mental health issues, relationship difficulties with parents, violence, alcohol and drug abuse, even brain damage and health problems later in life. The American Academy of Pediatrics outlines many of the developmental problems in its 2018 policy statement against corporal punishment, and you can read some of the actual studies at endhitting.org.”

Dr. Katie A. McLaughlin, Associate Professor of the Social Sciences and director of the Stress & Development Lab in the Department of Psychology at Harvard University says that children who come from schools where corporal punishment is used as a punishment are “more likely to develop anxiety, depression, behavior problems, and other mental health problems.” She continues, “but many people don’t think about spanking as a form of violence.”

In 2016, the National Women’s Law Center summed it up, saying “Aside from the infliction of pain and physical injury that often result from the use of physical punishment, these violent disciplinary methods impact students’ academic achievement and long-term well-being. Harsh physical punishments do not improve students’ in-school behavior or academic performance. In fact, one study found that schools in states where corporal punishment is used perform worse on national academic assessments than schools in states that prohibit corporal punishment.”

On August 29, 2022, the Springfield News-Leader reported that Kalia Miller and Gabe Moore, both seniors at Cassville High School, were upset by the new board policy and have formed a student-led initiative called Students Against Abusive Policies.

Click to Sign the petition on change.org

Follow the Students Against Abusive Policies on Twitter.
“I was really shocked because a policy like this hasn’t been in place at Cassville since 2001,” the newspaper quoted Gabe Moore, 17. “Most students are scared, the fact that they’ll be hit by a 30- or 40-year-old man, and mostly women are scared that they’ll be spanked or hit by a man with another guy in the room and they would feel embarrassed or see it as a call-back to trauma. It’s really frightening for a lot of students. Some students see it as abuse, and it IS abuse.”

Moore said students have also long been told they need to give consent for someone else to touch them. “It doesn’t really matter if the parents are for this policy because the students should have to consent if they are going to get hit or not,” Moore said. “Parents are opting in for their child to get abused.”

The U.S. Alliance is a non-profit organization founded in 2011 that brings together individuals, groups, and organizations to create a unified voice calling for, and working toward, an end to corporal punishment – an antiquated and dangerous form of disciplining a child – especially in schools and homes. The Alliance, through education and legal means, seeks to end all social justifications and legal authorizations of corporal punishment. Achieving these goals will give children the same legal protection from assault and battery that is already enjoyed by adults under state and federal law.

**PLEASE HELP STOP CORPORAL PUNISHMENT FOR THESE STUDENTS BY SIGNING OUR PETITION AND SHARING IT WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO SIGN. SIGN AND SHARE THE PETITION NOW ON CHANGE.ORG!**

Click to Sign the petition on change.org

We have 740 signatures on the petition so far!
EXCITING ACTIVITIES AT THE U.S. ALLIANCE TO END THE HITTING OF CHILDREN

The last three months have seen a number of exciting changes at the Alliance which have resulted in a flurry of new activity and projects. Sam Martin, our new Executive Director, on the job less than six months, was able to secure an Ads Grant from Google, which essentially gives us $10,000 worth of free advertising in the Google Search Engine. This has the potential to entice literally thousands of new people every month to visit our website (endhitting.org) And through Google Analytics, we can start to target our outreach much more effectively.

This is brand new for the Alliance, and in the next issue of this newsletter, we will provide a full statistical report of our first three months of experience. (Read Sam’s full report below.)

Sam is also very generously giving away a free copy of his ebook, Thy Rod and Thy Staff: They Comfort Me, to anyone who is willing to give the Alliance their email address.

Hopefully, his book will help Christians understand better what the Bible says — and doesn’t say — about corporal punishment and interest some new people into joining our cause. You can read some book reviews of Thy Rod and Thy Staff here.

Sam was also busy setting up a GoFundMe account for the Alliance in cooperation with the Alliance’s newest staff member, Humphrey K. Theodore Ng’ambi.

Humphrey is a digital marketing expert who is going to help us better utilize today’s technology to maximize our impact, and coordinate all of our digital communication efforts.

He’s skilled at social media marketing, web design and development and digital marketing strategy in general.
Growing up as a black boy under the care of a single mother in Africa, I was often subjected to corporal punishment. This was accepted as a norm both at home and at school. To discipline me, my mother would use either a flexible stick taken from a mulberry tree stripped down, or a piece of garden hose. Sometimes, she went with slapping and the occasional punch. I was raised to believe that if I was not disciplined this way, I would grow up to be a delinquent.

Now that I am educated as to what hitting children does to them, I would like to help other parents understand the negative impacts of corporal punishment. I proudly and loudly take a stand against physical punishment and all forms of violence against children.

My efforts will focus on leveraging technology to reach our audiences and promote the conversation around corporal punishment into the public consciousness. I aim to maximize our opportunities to recruit ambassadors and deepen the commitments of our supporters through stronger and more consistent communication across all digital channels.

Another new addition to our staff is Myranda James, with the title of Program Coordinator. I asked Myranda to tell us a little about herself.

In my house, we called them “whoopings”, some others call it paddling. Although the name may change from place to place, the result is still the same. I have discovered that we live in a world where children, who need the most protection, are given the least. A quote that fuels me on this mission is, “hitting adults is called assault. Hitting animals is called cruelty. Hitting children is ‘for their own good’”. Nothing good comes from corporal punishment – no matter how light and no matter the intention.
AND ON A GLOBAL NOTE...

While the Alliance focuses on prohibiting corporal punishment in the United States — and especially the 19 states that still allow paddling in schools — the End Violence Partnership continues to do good work on a global scale, having invested more than US$62 million in projects with impact in over 70 countries through the End Violence Fund. Here are some excerpts from their 2021 Annual Report....

- Over 700 organizations are now partners of the End Violence Partnership, up from 550 in 2020.
- Over 600 organizations and individuals endorsed the #EndCorporalPunishment Call to Action. This statement supports universal prohibition of corporal punishment by calling for urgent national action.
- 86 partners convened 77 affiliate events through the Together to #End Violence Campaign, and the campaign developed six evidence-based policy proposals to inform collective advocacy.
- 5 new Pathfinding countries — Ethiopia, Guinea, Kenya, Jordan and Papua New Guinea — joined the End Violence Partnership, bringing the number of Pathfinders to 37.
- 21 countries have convened national policy dialogues to further their commitment to end all forms of violence against children.
- $21 million in new grants will help build capacities across the globe to protect children from online sexual exploitation and abuse via the Safe Online Initiative.
- 14 major organizations align around an ambitious new Safe to Learn strategy and a compelling investment case for keeping children safe in and through schools.
- 23 million more children are now legally protected from corporal punishment with Colombia and the Republic of Korea introducing new laws.
- 63 countries have now fully prohibited corporal punishment and a further 26 countries have committed to a full prohibition.

THE IMPACT OF THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS

On September 30, 2020, Representative Donald McEachin (D-VA), introduced H.R. 8460 into the U.S. Congress for the purpose of banning corporal punishment nationwide in all public schools. The legislative text mentions several specific examples such as striking, spanking, paddling, chemical sprays, electroshock weapons, and stun guns.

The introduction of the bill late in the 116th legislative session meant that it probably wasn’t going to see the light of day in that session. But it did pick up eight cosponsors (all Democrats) and was assigned to the House Education and Labor Committee, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for some reason. It did not have any subcommittee assignment or meetings in either committee and died when that 116th Session was over in January 2021.

When Rep. McEachin was re-elected to Congress from Virginia in 2020, he re-introduced the same bill into the 117th Congress, but now it was known as H.R. 3836 and collected 26 cosponsors (again, all Democrats).

Rep. Donald McEachin
United States Representative
An identical bill was also introduced in the Senate by Senator Christopher Murphy (D-CT) as S. 2029 and found 3 other co-sponsors in the Senate (again, all Democrats). It was assigned to the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee in the Senate.

If that’s not confusing enough, Representative Alcee Hastings (D-FL) for some reason introduced H.R. 1234 in the House also in the 117th Session and got 5 cosponsors. This bill prohibits the Department of Education (ED) from providing funding to any educational agency or institution that allows its school personnel to inflict corporal punishment upon a student as a form of punishment or to modify undesirable behavior. (Rep. Alcee had earlier versions of the bill he had introduced in the previous three Congressional sessions, but it is not clear the differences between his bill and Rep. McEachin.) Rep. Alcee’s bill had only been assigned to one committee — the House Education and Labor Committee — which might have made it easier to get through the whole House for a vote. Sadly, Rep. Alcee died on April 6, 2021, and his H.R. 1234 died with him.

Once again, these bills (H.R. 3836, H.R. 1234, and S. 2029) will all die when the 117th Congressional session is over and a new Congress (the 118th) is seated in January of 2023 — which means that they will all have to be reintroduced (and get new numbers).

Since every single one of the sponsors and cosponsors of these bills is a Democrat. Nothing will stand much of a chance of passing into law if the Republicans gain control of the House of Representatives or the Senate — unless a lot of Republicans become aware of the disastrous effects of corporal punishment on our children and see the relationship between physical discipline and our epidemic of mass school shootings.

**READ MORE ON [POLITICO](http://www.politico.com)**

It would make sense that whoever introduces new bills in 2023 in the 118th Congressional Session would get all the cosponsors together and create a single bill that everyone can support and then present as a united front. But maybe it’s asking too much for Congress to make sense!

We will inform you in the next newsletter what bill(s) have been introduced and by whom in the 118th Congressional Session so you can call or email your representative(s) and ask them to support their passage.

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**Leslie Priscilla**

Leslie Priscilla is a first generation non-Black Xicana mother to three bicultural children and daughter of immigrant parents from Mexico. She is a descendant of Indigenous Tarahumara / Rarámuri lineage who has resided on occupied Tongva, Acjachemen & Kizh land, also known as Santa Ana in Orange County, CA, all of her life. She identifies as both Mexican-American and a Detribalized Indigenous mujer. Leslie shares her medicine by offering coaching, workshops, support, and advocacy for Latinx/Chicano families as well as professionals via trainings locally, nationally, and internationally both in-person and online via the Latinx Parenting organization. She founded LatinX Parenting organization and movement intentionally rooted in children’s rights, social and racial justice, the individual and collective practice of nonviolence and reparenting, intergenerational and ancestral healing, cultural sustenance, and the active decolonization of oppressive practices in our families.

Leslie has facilitated in-person groups in both Spanish and English for thousands of parents, teachers, and professionals in schools, transitional homes, teen shelters, hospitals, Wraparound programs, drug rehabilitation centers, and family resource centers throughout Orange County, CA and now world-wide virtually. We welcome her and look forward to Leslie’s contributions to our progress.
REPORT FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SAM MARTIN

So far, I have had some success moving the Alliance towards being able to apply for US Governmental funding. I was able to resolve our address issue in the www.sam.gov federal website that all non-profit organizations have to register in to be able to do business with the Federal government.

I have developed some good working connections with some relevant people at the US National Institute of Health (NIHCD) to learn about their grant making programs and have identified two programs which we hope to apply for in the coming months.

In addition, I have started to get material from the US Department of Justice which also has some grant making programs which could potentially be relevant for us. I am working on learning more about those instruments and am very thankful that we have Board Members to support in that process who have gone through securing funding from those funding agencies.

I have also had a referral from one of our friends about a private foundation who were instrumental in funding some of her work and we are following up on that.

In addition, you are all aware of the work we did to learn more about the private institutional donor who has been supporting us. We have done our best to learn more about them and have followed up with them to thank them for their support and we are hoping that their support for our work will increase.

We also have started to program the funds donated by hiring a part time program coordinator, Myranda James. Myranda is already proving to be a very positive member of the team and bringing in a lot of support. Myranda will also be supporting our project work as new grants come in.

Our focus continues to be to develop our project-based work in Arkansas. I am so grateful to Tate Aldrich for all of his assistance to help in so many ways to engage potential new supporters for our work in ending school corporal punishment in Arkansas.

We have also submitted several concept papers to relevant foundations in Arkansas online and through hard copy letters.

In this regard, we are currently following up on two institutional donors seeking support for our work. These are:

We submitted an idea to the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation and our first meeting with them is scheduled to happen on August 2. We asked them for $75,000 over three years.

We have been working to connect with the Communities for Just Schools Fund by attending a number of online meetings where they are a leading actor along with other donors and NGOs working to end school corporal punishment. This donor has several budget lines that the Alliance could qualify for and we are pursuing this donor to meet with them and make them aware of our work. This will focus also on our work in Arkansas. This donor is giving grants in the $50,000 range for projects and for organizational capacity-building, so we are hoping to secure funding for our work in Arkansas and also for our headquarters of the Alliance.

Finally, we have put the finishing touches on our GOFUNDME appeal seeking to raise funds from our individual donors through our email and Facebook, and other social media contacts. We are asking for your assistance to transmit this appeal to your networks. Your kind support of our campaign is also greatly appreciated.

We are hoping that before year-end, we will be able to announce that our annual turnover has been the largest in our history and that 2023 is on track to exceed this year in our annual income and also in the new projects that we are starting.
AN UPDATE FROM ARKANSAS

“Our man” in Arkansas, Tate Aldrich, filed this report on the activities going on in his state...

- We’re starting our letter campaign this September. This means we will be writing to Arkansas’s state legislators in an effort to engage them in conversations about banning corporal punishment—with the hopes of finding someone to sponsor a bill.

- We’re launching our new website in September, too. The new website will have a sleeker design, a lot more information, and links to resources.

- And we’re preparing for our first Needs Assessment—which is a survey we’re sending to over 1,000 Arkansas school administrators and counselors. The survey asks questions about corporal punishment, student data, and efficacy. We plan on sending it out in October.

- Also, our board has a new member, Chesley, who is passionate about the link between corporal punishment and dating violence. She is from Greenbrier, Arkansas — a place notorious for school-sanctioned corporal punishment.

NO–HIT ZONES

We encourage all family homes, schools and universities, hospitals, religious institutions, communities—anyone who is committed to non-violent discipline—to become a No–Hit Zone. This means no adult shall hit a child, no child shall hit another child, no adult shall hit another adult, and no child shall hit an adult.

For more information and the steps to take, visit the No Hit Zone website:

www.nohitzone.com

You can also become a No–Hit Zone advocate as an individual or organization and display this gold seal on your email and website:

BECOME AN ADVOCATE

BECOME AN ALLIANCE AMBASSADOR FOR CHILDREN

As an Alliance Ambassador, you will...

✓ defend the right of children to be free from all forms of violence, especially in their home

✓ encourage adults to defend a child’s right to equal protection under the law from assault

✓ encourage community leaders to end the practice of corporal punishment

The Alliance is committed to ending all hitting of children and youth in all places (i.e., schools and homes). By joining, you are indicating your support for this cause. When you join, you become a lifetime ambassador for the organization and the movement. You do not need to rejoin the organization each year, though we will gladly accept new donations! We will keep you informed through quarterly newsletters.

For more information, watch this 1-minute video and sign up as an Ambassador for Children,
FREE MONEY: COUPONBIRDS SEEDLING PROJECT

CouponBirds Seedling Project is a free fundraising platform to help thousands of charity organizations to raise funds easily online for free. Yes. TOTALLY FREE.

Led by CouponBirds, the project is to encourage CouponBirds online shoppers to donate and support charity organizations. Just like AmazonSmile, CouponBirds is doing what they can to give back to the community. Some great nonprofits have joined the program and began to receive donations every day.

Here’s all you have to do to get CouponBirds sending free money to the Alliance while you save money on your purchases:

1. **Install and shop.** It only takes one click to add CouponBirds SmartCoupon Finder to Chrome, Edge, or Firefox.

2. **Let CouponBirds do the work!** CouponBirds SmartCoupon Finder finds and picks valid codes. Apply coupon codes automatically while you check out. For example, there is a coupon for $10 Off Your First $50 Order at Walmart! Or 15% off at Home Depot!

3. **Be sure to choose the U.S. Alliance to End the Hitting of Children as your charity.**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR/SHARE NEWS

As the new editor of this newsletter, I would like to encourage all readers to send me their comments, questions, concerns, suggestions, etc. and I will publish the appropriate messages in this space in future editions of the newsletter.

You may email all news, letters and messages to me at ht@endhitting.org.

-- Humphrey K. Theodore