MEGAN'S STORY: THE LASTING IMPACT OF BULLYING, CYBERBULLYING, & SUICIDE

Tina Meier’s life changed dramatically on October 16, 2006, when her 13 year old daughter, Megan Taylor Meier, took her own life after being cyberbullied by an adult neighbor posing as a fictitious boy on MySpace. In 2007, Tina Meier founded the Megan Meier Foundation in St. Charles, Missouri, a non-profit organization that proactively addresses issues of bullying, cyberbullying, and suicide.

Tina Meier shares her daughter’s story and shows first-hand the devastating effects of bullying, cyberbullying, and suicide. Megan’s story touches students, parents, and educators in a deeply profound way reminding us to think before we speak, click, or act.

Tina Meier is available to speak to students, school staff, parents and other professionals in your community. From keynote presentations at major educational conferences to student leadership sessions, our staff will work with you to customize a presentations that fit your needs.

“You came to my school and very possibly could have saved my life. I was going through some tough times with bullying and such but since your visit, I feel like I'm ok again. I'm doing better in school, getting ready to graduate, and have a wonderful relationship with my family and friends. Thank you, you do such life-saving and heart touching work.”
Since 2008, the Megan Meier Foundation has reached over 500,000 students, parents, educators and other professionals through educational trainings and awareness events. In the past 7 years, the Foundation has led 19 leadership workshops in the St. Louis Metropolitan area serving more than 131,000 middle and high school students and sponsors and awarded 28 scholarships to high school seniors. The Foundation’s Resource Center has provided free mental health counseling to over 79 youth and their families affected by bullying and cyberbullying-related trauma since 2016. Programs seek to increase understanding and awareness of issues surrounding bullying and cyberbullying, as well as provide necessary tools and resources to promote change through acceptance, compassion, and leadership.
On October 16, 2006, Tina Meier’s life took a devastating turn when her 13-year-old daughter, Megan Taylor Meier, took her own life after being cyberbullied by an adult neighbor posing as a fictitious boy named “Josh Evans” on MySpace. In December of 2007, Tina Meier founded the Megan Meier Foundation, a non-profit organization whose mission is to support and inspire actions to end bullying, cyberbullying, and suicide. Since its inception, Tina and Foundation staff have reached over 500,000 students, parents, and educators in over 1,100 presentations across the United States.

Tina worked closely with Senator Scott Rupp and Governor Matt Blunt’s Internet Task Force for the State of Missouri to help pass Senate Bill 818, which went into law on August 28, 2008. Representing the mission of the Foundation, Tina appeared nationally and internationally on a large variety of network television stations, news magazines, and syndicated talk shows speaking about the issues of bullying, cyberbullying, and suicide. She served as a consultant for the 2011 ABC Family movie, “Cyberbu//y”, and appeared in several documentaries, including Discovery ID’s “Web of Lies” and the story of Lizzie Velasquez “A Brave Heart.” Tina was a featured speaker for TEDxBEND 2016 in Oregon.

Tina has received numerous recognitions and awards on behalf of the Foundation for her bullying and cyberbullying prevention efforts:

- Teen Line’s Humanitarian of the Year in 2009
- Presidential Invitation to the White House Anti-Bullying Conference in 2011
- Judge Arnold Krekel Trailblazer Award in 2013 by the Missouri Commission on Human Rights
- Women in Leadership honoree in 2015 by Tribute to Success
- GRIT Award in 2017

Today, Tina continues to travel throughout the country educating youth, parents, educators, and professionals on the harmful effects of bullying and cyberbullying with hopes to inspire others to:

"BE MEGAN’S VOICE... BE THE CHANGE!"
Q: How long is a typical Megan Meier Foundation presentation?

- Upper Elementary presentations last 45 minutes.
- Typical middle school or high school presentations last 60-75 minutes.
- Parent/Community last 60-75 minutes.
- Educators & all other professionals range from 60 minutes – full day.

**The audience usually likes to ask questions and personally meet Tina Meier afterwards, so we like to take time to accommodate for that after the presentations.**

Q: What kind of presentations does the Megan Meier Foundation offer?

Please note that these presentations can be customized to fit your needs.

- Upper Elementary School (grades 3-5)
- Middle School
- High School
- College
- Student Leadership
- All Boy or All Girl
- Educators/Administrators
- Professionals
- Parent/Community

Q: What is a “Breakout Session”?
The purpose of the Breakout Session is to gain an understanding of the bullying issues within the school from different students. Tina then will discuss ways to help prevent and solve these issues. Groups consist of 20-25 students from all “walks of life” - meaning students from different groups, not just the student council members or the football team - this way the school can get opinions of the bullying issues from different groups of students.

Schools should choose students for the Breakout Sessions before the presentation. There will be no additional charge for a Breakout Session. Breakout Sessions last 60-75 minutes.

Q: How many students or other audience members does Tina typically present to?

These presentations can be delivered to as many or as few audience members as you would like. The most efficient and cost effective way to present is to a large group in an assembly. Everyone needs to be able to see, hear, and sit comfortably.

Q: Is there a cost involved?

Yes. Speaking fees vary depending on how many presentations you would like and the travel required for each presentation. When traveling out-of-state, we also ask that Tina’s airfare, hotel, and airport transfers be paid for.

The fee includes (2) presentations with one breakout session at no extra charge. To find out more about the speaking fees, please contact the Megan Meier Foundation at 636-757-3501 or email directly to programs@meganmeierfoundation.org.

Q: What is the correct process to book a presentation with the Megan Meier Foundation?

Contact the office at 636-757-3501 or email directly at programs@meganmeierfoundation.org.

Q: Can you provide references so I can speak to another school administrator about their experience with Tina Meier and the Megan Meier Foundation?

Yes. We can provide you with a list of school administrators that would be happy to speak with you about their experience. Please contact the Megan Meier Foundation at programs@meganmeierfoundation.org.

Q: Why should I book Tina Meier?

1. Tina has shared Megan’s Story nationally in multiple states in hundreds of presentations.
2. Tina gives customized presentations and various topics based on extensive research.
3. Tina has real world, first-hand experience that is relatable to all ages.
4. Tina has a genuine, personal interest in everyone’s experiences and stories. She uses an empathetic approach to leave a lasting, life changing impact.
HELP WITH PROGRAM FEES

CREATIVE WAYS TO BRING TINA MEIER TO YOUR COMMUNITY:

• Team up with two or three other local schools and schedule multiple assemblies on the same day. This cuts the speaking fee by at least ½ for your school and it helps the Megan Meier Foundation reach more students in a short amount of time.

• Another good option is to find sponsors. Make a list of the largest businesses or organizations in your area, and then go visit the top five in person. Ask them to underwrite the program, and offer something in return (such as showing their logo at the event or letting them introduce the session). Examples: Rotary Club, Kiwanis, Lions Club, Elks, Chamber of Commerce. Remember: when they donate to the school, it’s a tax write off!

• Print off the brochure and present it to your local PTO group. If they can’t fund it directly, they can normally steer you toward potential sponsors.

• Check with school administration for funding provided by the Associated Student Body. For teacher in-service program, ask about Staff Development - Title VI funding.

• Apply for other grant monies from your state by contacting your state Department of Human Services and State Department of Education. They can direct you to the correct office. Contact other local agencies in your county that already have grant monies from state agencies. For example, the Criminal Justice Department or Department of Public Safety might have dispersed funds into mental health agencies or programs mentoring youth.

• Plan to integrate Tina’s presentation into a major theme such as Anti-Bullying Week, Mental Illness Awareness Week, Character Education, etc. Depending on your theme, federal grant money may be available. Check with your school district or federal government office to find out who is dispensing these funds in your state and request an application.

• Invite multiple clubs on campus to participate and help raise funds for the project. A cooperative student body effort helps students learn about the realities of the time and effort required to locate funding in the real

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT 636-757-3501