

# ACT Out - FREE Prevention & Mental Health Programs in Partnership with IDOE



ACT Out Social Issues Theatre offers evidenced-based\* prevention programs that engage students and help them to develop valuable conflict resolution and coping skills. It is an easy one-hour program and easy for teachers to implement. In partnership with IDOE and their Title IV technical assistance funds, we cover topics including **Preventing School Violence, Bullying and Teasing, Learning Loss Anxiety, or a combination of the above.** These programs are **FREE** to a limited number of public middle and high schools in central Indiana for the 2023-24 school year.

*According to the CDC's **Youth Risk Behavior Study** recently released, in a national study of over 17,000 students, **42% of high school students felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for at least two weeks in a row that they stopped doing their usual activities.***

The ACT Out ensemble of actors use scripted scenarios generated to meet students' needs and transforms it into improvisational, interactive theater. In the 30- to 45-minute show, the action often freezes in the midst of an issue and students are asked to provide suggestions on how to resolve the current conflict before the play resumes. **Students will have active participation in identifying issues and triggers and learning skills to deal with conflicts and handling emotions.**

**We can conduct up to six sessions per day serving 20 to 30 students per session. Our fidelity rating of meeting teacher expectations is 97%-100%.**

To view a one-minute promotional video, click [here](#).

**We are seeking 10 to 15 schools and hope to serve some 3,000 students twice to ensure impact.**

***“Powerful and compelling messages packed into dynamic performances.”*** - THE WASHINGTON POST

ACT Out has been recognized by *The Washington Post*, *CNN* and *Teen People Magazine* for its excellence in original work.



## ABOUT US

Founded in 1995, ACT Out, a program of non-profit Claude McNeal Productions, has helped transform the lives of more than 500,000 people through the unique power of live social issues theatre. We have performed for schools, universities, corporations, hospitals, government agencies and various community organizations nationwide.

ACT Out addresses the most pressing and complex issues facing students and adults today and encourages participants to embrace individualized solutions. This groundbreaking technique breaks down stereotypes and debunks social myths in a way that is innovative and impactful. By engaging students interactively, these programs have a greater and more lasting impact in a much shorter time than other methods.

\* The study was based on a 19-month evaluation process overseen by a team of external researchers from *Prevention Insights* at Indiana University School of Public Health Bloomington. The procedure included a pre-registered, published protocol and a rigorous randomized controlled trial, which is the gold standard of intervention evaluation.

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