

The Council for Boys and Young Men ® (Boys Council)

Education is one of many sectors in which The Council model is currently being implemented with success. The following report summarizes results of a public middle school implementation of the program through OPBI in Tampa, FL.ⁱ OPBI has received training, obtained curricula, and developed partnerships to offer groups that utilize the Boys Council model in their RISE prevention program.

The RISE Program, OPBI, Tampa, FL – a Middle School Prevention Model

At **OPBI** – the Ophelia Project and Boys Initiative, Tampa Bay, FL, sixth grade boys in local public middle schools participate in the RISE program, which utilizes **The Council for Boys and Young Men ®** model and “focuses on preventing bullying and violence, building self-esteem; learning tools for positive peer relationships; and developing leadership – all through a gender-specific lens!”ⁱⁱ The RISE program is geared towards 6th grade because this time is often a difficult transition period for youth, and their risk for poor relationships and increased violence typically increases without prevention measures.

2007-2008 Boys Outcome Data OPBI, Tampa FL

In a pilot study of the RISE program’s implementation of the Boys Council model adapted to the school environment, 53 boys from Tampa area middle schools completed pre and post test measures as part of the OPBI Boys Council 10 session program. No demographics available at this time.

Measure	Number boys	Pre-test	Post-test	Sign.
School Adjustment	52	18.0	19.3	P<.05
Empathy	53	10.1	10.6	n.s.
Aggression	48	12.5	19.2	P<.001
Caring	51	24.8	25.7	n.s.
Total Score	48	64.6	72.7	P<.001

Boys showed *improvements in all areas*. Their total score on all measures increased on average 8 points through participation in the program. This difference and two of the scale measures, **school adjustment and aggression, reached statistical significance**.

ⁱ Our gratitude to OPBI for providing this information to The Council for Boys and Young Men: www.boyscouncil.com

ⁱⁱ For more information visit the OPBI website: http://www.opbi.org/boysinitiative/whatwedo_programs_RISE.php