

For Immediate Release

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**THE COURAGE TO SPEAK FOUNDATION, INC BRINGS DRUG PREVENTION CURRICULUM
TO BRIDGEPORT SCHOOLS**

TEACHER TRAINING TAKING PLACE DECEMBER 9th

Bridgeport, CT—A new drug prevention curriculum for schools based on *Sunny's Story*, written by Norwalk resident Ginger Katz, comes to Bridgeport this December. The curriculum, developed by the Courage To Speak Foundation, Inc., is built around Ms. Katz's book, and is a compelling message of empowering youth to be drug free. Connecticut is one of 25 states across the country to use *Sunny's Story* as part of their substance abuse education programming. Copies of *Sunny's Story* have been distributed to each 6th grader in the Bridgeport Public Schools. On December 9, 2008, the Courage to Speak Foundation, Inc. trainer will prepare twenty-six teachers from Bridgeport, Norwalk and Monroe to implement the follow up activities to the reading of *Sunny's Story*.

Targeting children of all ages and their parents, *Sunny's Story* tells the story of joyful and sad times, and how a dog's best friend was needlessly lost. *Sunny's Story* is a compelling read for children, teenagers, parents, grandparents and teachers. Through this universal story of love, compassion, caring and understanding, Ms. Katz has brought new life to her message of empowering youth to be drug free. The family dog and narrator, Sunny, is a keen and intelligent observer of damage done by alcohol and other drug use to his master, Ian. He tells a heart-warming, but tragic story that will make readers, young and old, think twice about choices being made every day.

On December 9, 2008, beginning at 3:30 pm at Cesar A. Batalla School (606 Howard Ave.) in Bridgeport, CT, The Courage to Speak Foundation, Inc. will hold a teacher training for the *Sunny's Story* curriculum. Registration for this program is still open. All teachers who are interested in attending this training must register in advance.

The Courage to Speak Foundation, Inc. is a charitable community-based organization founded in 1996, shortly after Ginger and Larry Katz lost their son, Ian, to a drug overdose. The organization has been dedicated to a promise Ginger made to Ian, namely, that she would do everything in her power to prevent this tragedy from happening to another family. The Courage to Speak Foundation, Inc. mission is to save lives by empowering youth to be drug free and by encouraging parents to communicate effectively with their children about the dangers of drugs. The organization has reached over 750,000 people in some 1000 Courage to Speak Presentations in the past 12 years and has developed elementary, middle school and parenting programs.

For more information and to register for the *Sunny's Story* curriculum training, please contact Ms. Katz at 1-877-431-3295 or gkatz@couragetospeak.org. Visit www.couragetospeak.com.