May 6, 2015

TO: Barnstable County Commissioners, Assembly of Delegates
FROM: John L. Reed

Re: New Brochures

Attached are copies of the newest publication from the BC Human Rights Commission: our anti-bullying brochure, translated into Portuguese and Spanish. As you know, Barnstable County has a sizeable population of residents whose primary language spoken at home is not English. Spanish/ Spanish Creole and Portuguese/ Portuguese Creole lead the list of other languages spoken. According to In Focus: The Demographic and Socioeconomic Landscape of Barnstable County*, 4,181 residents speak Portuguese. Between 2000 and 2010, the County experienced a growth of 56.2% in the number of persons identifying as Hispanic or Latino. The Human Rights Commission continues to seek ways to ensure that all residents of the County have equal access to information.

Bullying (or Intimidacion) is the culmination of a campaign by our Projects Committee in support of the unfunded mandate to schools to address bullying. The campaign included ads in the Cape Cod Times promoting "No Name-Calling Day" in January. This day is part of the Commonwealth's anti-bullying law and was initiated in part by efforts of the Quashnet School students in Mashpee.

The Projects Committee placed three My View columns in the Times, which were excerpted to create the Bullying brochure. The English version has already been distributed widely to schools, libraries, primary care doctors and pediatricians, town recreation and community centers, police departments, and to all our Human Rights Academy advisors, among other locations. The Spanish and Portuguese versions will be similarly distributed, with the addition of all faith entities serving the Portuguese or Spanish communities and neighborhood convenience stores.

We are pleased to add this to our on-going efforts to educate the people of Barnstable County about all aspects of human rights and appreciate the support of the County Commissioners and Assembly in this work.

Thank you.

*published by Department of Human Services, June 2013; authored by Christine Clements Stein, PhD.