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Unify Against Bullying Awarded First Annual Grants

EAST LONGMEADOW, MA – Three western Massachusetts high school students, a guidance counselor and an educator were the recipients of the First Annual Unify Against Bullying grants. The grants were awarded on Monday, March 14, 5:30 p.m. at Center Square Grill in East Longmeadow.

Three individuals received \$1000 grants each. Among them, a Ludlow High School guidance counselor who is developing a program to educate bullies about the effects of their behavior on others, and a high school student from Wilbraham who is producing a film about a student who is a victim of extreme abuse inside and outside of school. A Longmeadow educator who teaches classes focusing on building self-esteem, educational success and kindness through non-contact self defense also received a \$1,000 grant.

Two \$250 grants were also awarded. One of those grants was given to a high school student from Westfield who was in the Unify Against Bullying Fashion Show last April. She was so moved by the experience, that she is working on a project to make all students feel accepted. The other \$250 grant was awarded to a student from Agawam High School who is studying fashion. He plans to make an emotional and moving short film as part of the video club at school. The film will focus on the effects of bullying.

This year's Unify Against Bullying Fashion Show is scheduled to take place on April 8, 2016. The presenting sponsor is Robert Charles Photography. For more information on the event and to purchase tickets, visit rcpUNIFY.com.